

THE TIMES Tomorrow

Do children pick up knacks more quickly today than they did at the turn of the century? Spectrum examines the controversial new theory of "morphic resonance" as expounded by Dr Rupert Sheldrake. Friday Page looks at role swapping in families stricken by male redundancy, and Medical Briefing asks whether vampirism is taken seriously enough.

Argentine trip ends in anger

The ship carrying relatives of Argentine servicemen killed in the Falklands conflict headed back to Buenos Aires amid reports of anger on board over the failure to visit war graves on the islands.

One Argentine journalist called the trip a "catastrophe", and reports spoke of growing confrontation between the relatives and Señor Destefanis, the organizer, and friction between the ship's crew and accompanying journalists.

Shipyard sit-in threatened

Shipbuilding workers' leaders have said that, unless the employers reverse their decision to make at least 9,000 workers redundant, they will call on the employees to occupy the yards.

Second quake

A second tremor, measuring 4.4 on the Richter scale, sent people running into the streets in Coalinga, California, but it caused little further damage. Monday's earthquake destroyed at least a third of the town's buildings.

Italian election

President Pertini of Italy dissolved Parliament in preparation for an early general election in June. This comes after the collapse of the four-party coalition Government led by Signor Amintore Fanfani.

Envoys expelled

The Iranian Foreign Ministry told 18 Soviet diplomats serving at the embassy in Tehran and elsewhere that they had to leave the country within 48 hours. Party banned, page 8



Seaside rift

Mr Brian Rix, secretary general of Mencap, who attended a conference aiming to heal a bitter dispute over the number of mentally handicapped visitors to a holiday resort. Page 3

Substitute Lion

Steve Bainbridge, the England and Goshford lock forward, replaces Donal Lushian, of Ireland, who has a hernia, in the British Lions party who leave today for a tour of New Zealand. Page 23

Leader page 13 Letters: Our hours, from Mr S C Silk, QC, MP; pensions, from Lord Byers; cable TV, from Mr W L A Hayes. Leading articles: Andropov's arms proposal; Local elections; Sotheby's features, pages 10-12. William Whitelaw replies to critics of prison policy; matters of life and death by Bernard Levin; Ronald Butt on Christianity and CND. Modern Times meets some Americans who have made their homes in London and discover what it is about the British way of life that makes them feel at home. Books, page 11. Anthony Quinton reviews The Squandered Peace, Richard Holmes on Seigfried Sassoon, Philip Howard on the Lyttelton Harri-Davis letters; Gore Vidal, first novels, science fiction; Byron Rogers on the last Prince of Wales. Obituary, page 14. Sir Richard Le Gallais, Wing Cdr E. W. Anderson. Pensions. A four-page Special Report surveys what is happening in occupational, earnings-related and personal schemes for incomes for retirement. Pages 1-14.

Westminster swept by fresh attack of election fever

By Our Political Staff

A fresh attack of general election frenzy seemed to have afflicted politicians at Westminster yesterday, in spite of an apparent attempt to discourage expectation of an announcement within the next few days. Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, called off an engagement in Glasgow next Tuesday in order to be in London in case the Prime Minister decides to end the speculation on that day.

The decisions by Mr Steel and Mr Jenkins to change their plans stemmed from the belief, voiced at a meeting of their parties' leaders yesterday, that Mrs Thatcher might go for an election on June 9 and that early next week would be the latest time for an announcement.

The two parties have calculated that, by rearranging its business plans in the Lords, the Government would be able to complete all of its legislation by the end of next week, with the exception of the Telecommunications, Data Protection, and Police and Criminal Evidence Bills.

One of the key dates for the Prime Minister's fine-tuning of polling day, if she does decide to go to the country next month, will be June 17, when the Department of Employment publishes the retail prices index for May.

As Mr Leon Brittan, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, remarked earlier this week, the inflation figures due next month could well fall below 4 per cent, and if that achievement is continued through to June's figures, then ministers might be expected to make capital out of it.

But Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, has already announced that May's inflation figure will be used for next November's uprating of pensions and other benefits, when inflation is expected to be rising to or above 6 per cent.

If the June 17 RPI figure is indeed 4 per cent, as forecast, then the Government's opponents will use that figure to underline the actual cut in living standards for the poorest sections of the community.

Fortunately for Mrs Thatcher, that handicap would still leave two free dates in June: the 9th and the 16th. Again, Labour and Alliance politicians would undoubtedly question the choice of June 16, simply because it precedes the RPI announcement.

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Royal guard: The Queen, framed by Yeoman Warders, yesterday opening the first stage of the Wall Walk, which runs around the Tower of London. (Photograph: Brian Morris)

The Hitler Diaries First instalment discloses details of Hess plan

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

Stern magazine begins publication today of the controversial Hitler diaries, maintaining in its first instalment on Rudolf Hess that his flight to Scotland in 1941 was secretly conceived in 1939 and specifically approved by Hitler.

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

then broadcast to the world: "Party comrade Hess - who, because of a progressive illness from which he has suffered for years, was strictly forbidden by me to continue to participate in any aeronautical activities - nevertheless recently managed, contrary to my specific command, to gain possession of a plane."

Germany about a possible understanding.

Hess conceived his personal mission, and sent the details to Hitler by courier on June 25, 1939. The following night Hitler wrote in his diary: "Hess sends me a memorandum concerning the problem of England. Would not have believed that Hess could be so sharp-witted. This memorandum is very, very interesting."

In a lengthy account that draws on the special volume Hitler kept on the Hess affair, Stern says the two men had agreed on the flight as an attempt to sign a separate peace with England before the dictator's deputy, a former fighter pilot, took off in his Messerschmitt from Augsburg on May 10, 1941.

He also noted that Hess had left behind a letter which "in its muddledness" unfortunately gives evidence of mental derangement.

On June 27 Hitler said: "Could not help thinking about Hess's memorandum all night. Must absolutely discuss it with him in confidence." On June 28 the subject was still on his mind: "Read Hess's memorandum once more. Simply fantastic, and yet so simple."

According to Mr Hitler's account, entitled "The Plan", he had already worked out three scenarios, which he noted down as:

Hitler's black-covered lined notebook, sealed by Martin Bormann, his political secretary, and bearing a slip of paper marked "Top Secret. Property of the Führer. Always to be kept under lock and key", ends with Hitler's signature on May 16, 1941.

Stern says on June 30 Hitler and Bormann went to Munich and arranged a preliminary discussion with Hess. Hitler instructed him not to talk to anyone else of the proposal. On July 6 Hitler again flew to Munich, noting in his diary later: "Hess must work through the ideas he communicated to me in his memorandum and I expect him for a discussion in absolute privacy."

1. Should the mission succeed and Hess brings it off, he is acted with my consent.

The plan did miscarry, and Hitler settled on "Plan 3". In his notebook he also drafted the official party version which was

Continued on back page, col 1

Tories hope for low local poll

By David Walker Local Government Correspondent

Party officials on all sides yesterday predicted only a light turnout for the local elections which are taking place in 369 district councils throughout England and Wales today.

British Airways in return to profit

By David Young

British Airways, which in the past year has converted a loss of £118m into a profit of £72m, will become the main thrust of the next Conservative Government's de-nationalization plans, when its accounts move into the black by £250m.

Mr John King, who was appointed by the Prime Minister to restore the state airline to profitability, yesterday had his appointment extended to next May.

A low turnout would be good news for the Conservatives for it would be a sign that high levels of unemployment were not a major issue at elections.

Opponents of privatization of British Airways described as the "jewel in the crown" of the Government's holding company industry, say that its return to profits has been at the cost of massive redundancies the sale of aircraft, and the sale of its profitable international Aeradin subsidiary.

British Airways say that redundancies costs have already been budgeted for the sale of five Tri-Star aircraft for £50m to the Government for conversion to RAF tankers was not profitable, and that that £50m realized by the sale of International Aeradin was not included in the present accounting year.

Party officials say that the signs are that these elections will be a further demonstration of the party's political solidarity across a swathe of the country from Kent to Devon and from Hampshire to rural North Yorkshire. Birmingham, where a Conservative council has cut the rates and threatened privatization of services, remains a glittering prize.

Mr John King said yesterday that until he had returned the airline into profit by £250m a year - present forecasts are that this could happen in the year ending March 1985 - he and his board would not put to the Government a pre-election boost.

However, Mrs Thatcher's champion of free enterprise Sir Freddie Laker may ironically prove to be a deterrent to City investment in the eventual privatization of British Airways.

In a "normal" year Labour should romp home in its citadels districts such as Gateshead and Wakefield, and take control of Birmingham as well as Bradford, Calderdale, and Rochdale. But Labour organizers yesterday spoke only of keeping what the party now controls and perhaps depriving the Conservatives of several control in Birmingham and Stockport.

There will be extreme disappointment in the Liberal camp if the party does not advance to take control of Chelmsford, Newbury and possibly Worthing and Yeovil.

The receiver of Laker Airways yesterday won a victory in the US courts against its main former competitors.

About 32 million people in England and Wales (there are no elections in Greater London or in Scotland) are eligible to vote today. Only about 13 million, 40 per cent, are likely to turn out and in some rural and city areas the figure will be very low.

Mr Dearing made the promise of a price freeze when challenged on the BBC's *PM* programme.

Much of the higher than expected profit came from an increase in postal traffic - letters up by 2.7 per cent and parcels up by 1.6 per cent - and a reduction in the hours worked by 1.6 per cent.

Mr Dearing complained, however, about the Government's financial constraints which require that the Post Office pay to the Treasury part of its profits. Last year that figure was £56m.

The profit figures, which are due to be released officially in July, were disclosed to the Commons Select Committee on Trade and Industry by Mr Ronald Dearing, the Post Office chairman. The postal side contributed £120m of the profits and the rest came from the Girobank. Last year's profits were £96.2m.

Mr Dearing said he would accept the £3m offer, if a further £1m was forthcoming within 12 months. The trustees, after lengthy consideration, decided that they would not be able to raise the extra money, and turned down the offer.

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A Jockey Club statement said: "This firm offer of £1m remains on the table until May 16."

Report, page 22

£3m offer for Aintree rejected

By Our Sports Staff

The Grand National is still £1m away from salvation. The Aintree appeal failed by £2m to raise the money to buy the race, and the owner, Bill Davies, yesterday rejected an offer of £3m made by the appeal trustees.

Sotheby's inquiry ordered

By Jeremy Warner

The battle for control of Sotheby's, the London-based fine art auctioneers, was halted yesterday when Lord Cockfield, the Trade Secretary, referred the £60m bid by two New York financiers for a six-month investigation by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

Lord Cockfield's intervention seems destined to cause deep controversy in both Whitehall and the City since it was made against the explicit advice of Sir Gordon Borrie, Director General of Fair Trading.

The director general has a statutory role in providing a voice independent of the political arena on all significant mergers.

The two financiers, Mr Marshall Cogan and Mr Stephen Swid were last night closeted with their merchant bank adviser, Morgan Grenfell.

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Mortgage rates warning as loan queues lengthen

By Lorna Bourke and Baron Phillips

Hombuyers could face a rise in home loan rates soon if bank base rates do not come down substantially. Mr Alan Cummings, chairman of the Building Societies Association, said yesterday:

requirements. "We may make a modest increase in our rates in an attempt to boost our inflow. It may be inevitable if it should prove that other rates have settled at a level above our own." Mr Cummings said at the BSA's annual conference, in Bournemouth.

Another half per cent cut in base rates will not be sufficient to head off a rise in building society rates and the only alternative would be to cut back on lending, he said.

Demand for mortgages continues to run at record levels and borrowers are having to wait for up to 16 weeks to obtain a loan. The societies are unlikely to raise the mortgage rate this month but an increase could be approved when the BAS council meets again in June.

Money flowing into societies is up £250m a month below

demand for mortgage funds and not to run with mortgage queues", Mr Cummings said.

Two recent falls of half a percentage point in bank base rates have by no means restored our competitive position. We have been able to continue to make offers of loans and to lend at record levels by running down our liquid balances.

Plainly this is a process which cannot continue indefinitely. Blaming the banks which pulled out of the mortgage market for the current shortage of funds, Mr Cummings said: "Certainly the presence of banks in the mortgage market is welcome. But they must be prepared to be consistent lenders." Building societies

could not be expected to make up any shortfall caused by marked variations in the level of bank lending.

Homebuyers in London, the South-east, the South-west and Northern Ireland are being told by some leading building societies they will have to wait for as long as four months for a mortgage. And it is understood that some investors of the Abbey National Building Society were told last month that they would have to wait a month before their application could be considered.

Nationally the average waiting time for a mortgage is now between two and two and a half months for the loan to be made available.

Soviet offer ruffles US

From Nicholas Ashford Washington

Mr Caspar Weinberger, the US Defence Secretary, yesterday cautiously welcomed Mr Yuri Andropov's latest missile proposal but pointed out that there was still "not the basic willingness (by the Soviet Union) to make the kinds of reductions which President Reagan has been talking about."

Mr Weinberger said the Soviet party leader's proposal that warheads on launchers should be the proper unit of account at the Geneva negotiations on intermediate-range missiles represented "a change" by Moscow.

Until now the Soviet Union has insisted on a missile-by-missile counting, largely because its SS20 missiles have three warheads while the Pershing two and ground-launched cruise missiles which the United States is planning to deploy in Western Europe at the end of this year have only one each.

However, Mr Weinberger repeated earlier American rejections of Soviet insistence that British and French strategic systems be included in the Geneva negotiations.

Mr Andropov's speech, made on Tuesday night, has caused some consternation in the United States, where it is regarded as a further attempt to turn European public opinion against the deployment of the Pershing 2 and cruise missiles.

The statement is seen to contain deliberate ambiguities. For example, has suggestion that warheads should be the proper unit of account is seen as a step in the right direction and has been welcomed by the United States.

But, Mr Andropov's continued insistence that British and French strategic systems be included as part of the Nato arsenal is as unacceptable to the Americans as it is in the British and the French.

American sources pointed out that Mr Andropov was well aware of the US position on the British and French missiles before he made his speech, which is why they suspect his primary motive for putting forward his new proposal may have been propaganda.

Mr Weinberger's remarks were in line with a statement issued by the State Department shortly after Mr Andropov's speech which said the Soviet leader appeared to have hardened his position by insisting on the inclusion of the British and French systems.

The statements said the US and its Nato allies had frequently emphasized they could not accept Soviet demands for the right to maintain nuclear forces equal to all other states combined. "Unfortunately Mr Andropov made it clear that such a demand remains the cornerstone of the Soviet position."

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PLEASE GIVE ALL YOU CAN TO FIGHT MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS NOW. IT'S STILL LESS THAN IT COULD COST THE NEXT GENERATION. Multiple Sclerosis is a cruel disease that affects some 50,000 people in the UK today. Either we find a cure or we bequeath this affliction to the next generation. But research is expensive. And of course there is never enough money coming in. Please send whatever you can to the Multiple Sclerosis Society. Send it by cheque, money order or giro. Use cash or even a credit card if you prefer. Send it any way you like, but please send it. And help defeat Multiple Sclerosis for all time.

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Provincial press recovery

The provincial newspaper industry is witnessing a renewal of confidence after a period of lost sales and advertising, Mr David Cole, retiring president of The Newspaper Society, said yesterday.

Mr Cole, the chairman of the Western Mail and Echo Ltd, Cardiff, told the society's combined sectional meeting in London: "Just two years ago the future for the regional and local press could not have been described as encouraging."

The industry responded to its problems with hard work and the formation of fresh initiatives.

Ship handyman awarded £4,000

Mr James French, aged 60, of Sheerness, Kent, a ship handyman, was awarded £4,000 damages in the High Court in London yesterday for injuries caused when he was exposed to chlorine gas while cleaning the galley floor of the passenger ferry Olau Kent in November, 1978.

Mr French had mixed two cleaning agents which should never be combined because he could not read their warning labels, which were in Dutch and German. The award, with costs, was against Olau Line (UK).

Inquest verdict on teenagers

An inquest jury in London yesterday found that Gary English, aged 19, of Cable Street, and James Brown, aged 18, of Beechwood Crescent, who were fatally injured in an accident on Easter Sunday two years ago, had died after being knocked down by an Army Land-Rover.

The jury also found that the Land-Rover had reversed over Mr English's body as he lay on the roadway and that the fatal injuries were sustained in the initial impact.

Life support mother dies

Miss Beverly Brooke, aged 19, who gave birth to a son by caesarian section while on a life support system, has died in hospital 24 hours after the birth.

Her son, Michael, who weighs 6lb, is doing well at Leeds General Infirmary. His mother was placed on the respirator after collapsing.

Report for DPP

A report by Mr Charles Horan, Assistant Chief Constable (Crime) of Greater Manchester Police, into the death of Mr James Davey, aged 40, while in custody at Coventry police station in March has been sent to the Director of Public Prosecutions.

Pension petition

Mr James Nicholson, who auctioned his father's Battle of Britain Victoria Cross last year for £10,000, wants to present a petition with 20,000 signatures to MPs later this month calling for a review of Second World War widows' pensions.

Oil test agreed

Despite strong opposition, West Sussex county council's planning committee yesterday approved a scheme by Conoco (UK), the oil company, to drill an exploratory 700ft bore hole at Baxter's Copse, at Grafham, West Sussex.

Penlee verdict

Mr Richard Stone, QC, who chaired the public inquiry into the loss of the Penlee lifeboat and the coastguard's handling of the rescue, will give his findings at Penzance on May 18, it was announced yesterday.

Shipbuilding men threaten takeover of state yards

By Barric Clemeat, Labour Reporter

Leaders of 63,000 shipbuilding workers yesterday threatened a mass occupation of yards unless plans to cut the workforce by at least 9,000 was withdrawn.

More than 500 delegates backed almost unanimously a strongly-worded resolution calling for the takeover of the plants owned by British Shipbuilders, the state-owned company, which has already said that it is heading for financial disaster.

The occupations would take place as soon as negotiations from the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions were satisfied that British Shipbuilders would not revoke its call for mass redundancies and that a 1,000 job cutback had been achieved through voluntary severance, but the present programme would almost certainly entail compulsory redundancy.

The company said later that industrial action would be "devastatingly damaging" to the industry.

Mr Maurice Phelps, the company's board member for industrial relations, thought that ultimately the unions would not carry out their threats.

He said that he hoped there would be a meeting, possibly next Wednesday, at which the two sides would discuss the industry's problems.

Mr James Murray, chairman of the shipbuilding negotiating committee, said that the unions were not seeking a confrontation with British Shipbuilders but were prepared to take action if necessary to save the industry.

The resolution carried at the delegate conference yesterday at Plymouth reaffirms the unions' total commitment to secure the industry "in its nationalised form".

The meeting mandates the negotiators to resist cutbacks and to oppose the wage freeze.

which Sir Robert Atkinson, British Shipbuilders' chairman, says is necessary if the company is to keep down costs and achieve competitiveness.

Mr Murray said that the threatened occupations would affect all 22 nationalized shipyards in Britain simultaneously. The length of the sit-in would be determined by the negotiating committee.

No ballot of the membership will be held on whether to take the action. Delegates assured union leaders that the shopfloor would back whatever measures were considered necessary.

"It is not the intention of the shipyard negotiating committee to head for confrontation. We don't seek confrontation. We seek a solution to this problem through cooperation with British Shipbuilders."

Mr Murray said some delegates had been calling for strike action, but it had been ruled out in favour of occupation.

● Hopes were raised yesterday that a deal to be put to a mass meeting of Tisbury dockers today would result in a return to work after a seven-week stoppage - one of the longest in the industry's history.

The compromise package was worked out by an independent three-man inquiry chaired by Sir John Wood and it has been informally accepted by the Port of London Authority and the national officer of the Transport and General Workers' Union.

Last night the deal was being discussed with local union representatives and it is thought that it will be recommended today to the 2,300 dockers on strike.

On April 21 a settlement agreed at national level and recommended to the strikers was rejected. But the PLA hopes that after being idle for seven weeks, the men will be anxious to return to work. The stoppage is over pay parity with white collar workers.

Peers seek tighter law on juries

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Lord Harris of Greenwich and Lord Wigoder are to make a renewed attempt to press the Government on legislation to tighten eligibility for jury service and ensure convicted criminals do not serve on juries.

The peers are understood to be meeting Government officials soon to express concern that the practice of "jury no-bbing" is continuing and in the hope of agreeing a piece of legislation likely to get through the Commons.

Despite stricter security measures introduced in courts after talks between police, the Home Office, the Lord Chancellor's Department and court administrators, jurors are still being approached. "We are hoping some sort of sensible compromise will emerge," Lord Harris said yesterday.

"We want some sort of measure to get criminals off juries as a matter of urgency and not endless tortured arguments over the form it should take."

Measures introduced last year, in particular at the Central Criminal Court, to keep jurors separate from the public have had some effect. But yesterday Mr Peter McKenzie, the courts administrator, said further measures were being considered. "I cannot say whether they are for obvious reasons," he added.

Lord Harris and Lord Wigoder are taking up the question once more after receiving a parliamentary answer yesterday from Lord Elton, parliamentarian under secretary of state at the Home Office, on a recent case at the Central Criminal Court where a juror was approached and threatened with having his legs blown off.

"I am greatly concerned that this is still going on despite the measures that have been taken," Lord Harris said. "Obviously one cannot have a wholly watertight system but it is a matter of great concern that so recently, after all these steps, we have these cases. And what about all the approaches we do not hear about."

A Bill to tighten jury eligibility, sponsored by the two peers has received its third reading in the Lords. It would prevent adults convicted of two or more indictable offences from sitting on juries. But the Government has not promised it the necessary time in the Commons.

Nor is the Government backing a second measure, a private member's Bill backed by six Conservative MPs, which would disqualify anyone convicted of any offence punishable with imprisonment. That is thought to go too far, the Wigoder-Harris amendment not far enough.



Illustration by Peter Rowles after Tenniel. "Come, let's try the latest figure!" said the Mock Turtle to the Gryphon... [So they began solemnly dancing round and round Alice, every now and then treading on her toes]

'Militarism' rift halts scout cash

By Rupert Morris

The festering ideological struggle between the Boy Scout movement and the Inner London Education Authority (ILEA) erupted again yesterday when the authority decided to withhold any further grant until it was satisfied that local scout groups were free of sexism, racism or any other kind of discrimination.

London scout groups will be subject to a two-month vetting by a team of inspectors and other ILEA officers, sanctioned yesterday by the authority's further and higher education sub-committee. Until that is complete they will receive no further grant. Last year the authority gave £62,000 to London branches of the scout movement.

This is the latest episode in a dispute which began last December when Mr Neil Fletcher, chairman of the sub-committee, took exception to remarks made by the new Chief Scout, Major-General Michael Walsh, General Walsh had called for a return to traditional values, better personal discipline, sportsmanship, politeness, physical fitness and more outdoor activities.

Mr Fletcher accused General Walsh of being "militaristic" and invited local representatives of the movement to explain their aims and activities to the authority. Although this request was complied with, an ILEA spokesman said yesterday that a lot of the scouts' work appeared to be "very progressive", the politicians were still not satisfied.

A report on the scouts was presented to yesterday's committee meeting, and the two-month inquiry agreed. Leaders of the Scout Association were clearly taken aback by the move, and an ILEA spokesman said yesterday that the movement did not discriminate, but insisted on obeying the law. Anyone convicted of offences against children, for instance, would not be given a job with scouts.

The authority has recently set up an equal opportunities unit, and is particularly concerned about discrimination against homosexuals, racial prejudice, or class preference.

When previously threatened with withdrawal of ILEA grants, General Walsh said that principles came first; that movement would simply raise money by other means if necessary.

CND election plans focus on missiles

By Nicholas Timmins

The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament has sent advice to all its local groups on how to put pressure on candidates at the general election to support CND's stance against the introduction into Britain of cruise and Trident missiles.

The "general election pack" says it is cruise and Trident that CND will concentrate on in the campaign, rather than unilateralism, because opinion polls suggest that on that issue Mrs Thatcher would win.

The election pack says that if Mrs Thatcher is re-elected with an overall majority, "our immediate task - stopping cruise and Trident - will become very much more difficult."

It continues: "Whatever happens in the election, we will continue to resist nuclear escalation and a campaign for unilateral nuclear disarmament by Britain. But it would be extremely foolish to neglect any opportunity that CND may have as a movement to stop Mrs Thatcher from winning a new pro-nuclear majority in the House of Commons."

Opinion polls, and CND's own "peace canvass", the advice says, show that a large majority still believe that Britain needs nuclear weapons for its security, but equally, show that a similar majority are opposed to nuclear escalation, cruise and Trident.

"Mrs Thatcher wants to fight the election on unilateralism because she knows that on that issue she can win. By the same token without losing sight of the larger issues we should place cruise and Trident at the centre of our intervention."

Prior hopes to visit Dublin soon

From Richard Ford Belfast

Talks aimed at continuing the improvement in Anglo-Irish relations may be held before the general election between Dr Garret FitzGerald, the Irish Prime Minister, and Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland.

Mr Prior said yesterday that he hoped to travel to Dublin soon to meet Dr FitzGerald for the first time since the Fine Gael-Labour coalition government returned to power last year.

He admitted that he had detected signs of discontent in Dublin that relations had not improved more rapidly, and said he would like to try and put that right.

"It is important that Anglo-Irish relations should be seen to be friendly, and restored to the spirit of understanding which has been lacking over the last year or so," he said.

Relations have been improving since Dr FitzGerald returned to power and he held a meeting with Mrs Margaret Thatcher at the last European summit in March.

However, both Mr Prior and Dr FitzGerald are believed to be anxious that there should be no rush towards a summit meeting with the prospect of a general election pending.

Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, made his first visit to Northern Ireland since taking up his latest position when he made a 24-hour fact-finding mission.

He arrived in the province late on Tuesday night in great secrecy.

Science report

How iron takes a 'balloon' trip home

By the Staff of Nature

A detailed picture has emerged from two American laboratories of how traces of iron are packaged and taken from the bloodstream to those cells of the body that require them for normal growth.

There are two essential components to the package: the iron itself, and a carrier protein of blood serum to which the iron binds. They are delivered to a receptor protein which sits on the surface of cells which have a requirement for iron.

Delivery triggers off a process by which the iron is carried to its ultimate destinations within cells. The process can best be described if the cell is imagined as a water-filled balloon.

In the first step of the process, those areas of the balloon's surface which contain receptors for the iron bound to serum protein are pushed inwards and then pinched off into bubbles which float freely in the watery interior of the balloon.

Within a matter of minutes the bubbles fuse with pre-existing bubbles in a step that is the key to the economy of the whole process: according to teams led by Dr Harvey Lodish at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Dr Gilbert Ashwell at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland.

The most important point is that the contents of the pre-existing bubbles are rather acid. When fusion brings the complex of receptor, iron and serum protein into contact with these contents, their acidity causes the iron to dissociate from the complex.

That iron leaves the bubbles and proceeds to its ultimate destination, whereas the bubbles, still containing the receptor and serum protein, resurface with the balloons. As they do so, their acquired acidity is neutralized, so that the serum protein is released from its receptor.

The beauty of the process lies in its economy. While the iron is delivered to the cell's interior, the blood protein to which it was bound and the receptor are each recycled to the surface of the cell.

The whole process is similar to that used for the delivery of many hormones to the interior of cells but with the important difference that the hormones themselves proteins, do not have carrier proteins in the blood. The cycle of economy for hormone delivery is therefore one step more simplified than that for iron.

Source: Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, USA Volume 80, pages 2258 and 2263, 1983

ready struck for a day against pay cuts for trainees.

Under the Criminal Justice Act courts will have the power to make specified activity orders, laying down what a juvenile may do during supervision by a probation officer. According to probation chiefs, there is not enough money to provide all the programmes needed.

There is strong opposition within the service to the use of curfews. Mr Day said: "I do not think curfews will be extensively used."

"They have to be seen as feasible and recommended by a probation officer. The probation service is uneasy about them."

if it lays the ghost and puts an end to rumours of ill-treatment in prison cells then obviously it is going to be something that we welcome."

Sir Philip Knights, the chief constable of the West Midlands, said yesterday that until there was a fully corporate approach to crime, there would be no real reduction in the annually increasing number of offences (Arthur Gaman writes).

He told the county's police committee, in his annual report for 1982, that the 210,688 crimes reported last year was an increase of almost 12 per cent on 1981 figures.

Election fever increases

Continued from page 1

pose less of a danger, either because they lack political sensitivity or because they fall so far from key Thursdays. Unemployment figures, expected to show a fall, are announced on June 3, the average index comes on June 15 and the trade figures on June 27.

There are some ministers, however, who see far more significance in the dates of two summits which are in the offing. Mrs Thatcher is committed to going to Washington between May 26 and May 28, in advance of the Williamsburg summit, which ends on May 30. If the Prime Minister was determined to make that trip then June 9 would be vetoed.

The Community heads of Government summit in Stuttgart, due on June 5 and 6, also clashes with June 9, although the Prime Minister could miss both meetings.

As for the sporting calendar, it is most unlikely that Mrs Thatcher's choice would be influenced by the Derby on June 1, or even the Prudential World Cup, which starts with a match between England and New Zealand at the Oval on June 9, with the final at Lords on June 25.

However, although the Prime Minister might take no direct interest in such sporting events, she will be acutely aware of the hazards of doorside canvassing at a time when such sporting events are being covered extensively, by television, and the even greater resentment which might build up with political debates squeezing out the media's sports coverage.

Most MPs now believe that the election will be in June. Nothing has been said to make them waver in that conviction. Whitehall sources last night, however, ruled out an announcement after the Chequers summit on Sunday between Mrs Thatcher and her senior Cabinet and party colleagues, and said that an announcement next week need not necessarily be expected.

Important changes in local government are likely to be part of the Government's election platform.

Cat among public school pigeons

By David Nicholson-Lord

A controversy within the public schools seems certain to come after the publication today of an autobiography containing accounts of homosexuality, bullying, and sexual licence in schools.

The book is written by Mrs Daphne Rae, wife of Dr John Rae, Headmaster of Westminster School, and a leading reformist figure in the public school system.

The book, *A World Apart*, has been widely publicized as an exposé of public schools, in particular Harrow, where Dr Rae spent the early years of his teaching career. But yesterday critics, including some of Dr Rae's pupils at Westminster, described it as unbalanced, distorted, and out-of-date.

Mr Ian Beer, the present Headmaster of Harrow and a friend and contemporary of the Raes at Cambridge University, said Mrs Rae had got many facts wrong about Harrow; he described the book as unwise.

He added: "It takes up dinner party gossip and turns it into reality. It therefore gives the impression that she is writing about certain instances where she has knowledge. It is also a little unkind to some people still living."

"I don't think what she has written has any relevance to Harrow in 1983. As to whether it did in 1955, where there are facts that can be verified that are wrong."

Mr Beer thought that the book would not harm public schools "because parents pay for more than gossip".

Mrs Rae said that the book had been received favourably by most people from public schools who had seen it, including a group of Old Harrovians, former pupils of her husband, whom they had entertained at dinner this week. "They said everything they had read was absolutely right."

The accounts of the "young and beautiful" wife of a master at a well known public school who taught up to 100 boys a year the "various pleasures of sexual activity".

When she was found out she complained that she could not live without her "young boys" around her, even though her marriage and her husband's career had been wrecked.

Mrs Rae says she was told that by a peer and his son. Other incidents recounted include those of a boy having his head thrust down a lavatory and of another who was repeatedly stripped and thrown under a shower and left naked because he would not take part in glue-sniffing.

One instance of homosexuality, said to be recent, gives details of a head of house who forced younger boys to have sexual relations with him. His father, according to Mrs Rae, was a powerful figure in the City and threatened to ruin the career of a victim if the latter persisted with a complaint to the school about the affair.

Mrs Rae said yesterday that her initial motives for writing the book were her opposition to corporal punishment and her concern about the sado-masochistic tendencies underlying it. She had been persuaded to publish it by her husband.

She said that the book presented an affectionate picture of Harrow and had earned praise from Mrs Maud (Bobbie) James, widow of a former Harrow headmaster, and from Mr Francis Fisher, a former Master of Wellington College and a leading figure on the Independent Schools' Information Service (ISIS).

At Westminster School one boarding pupil, aged 17, said: "There is probably an element of truth in what she says but a very small element. If I were Dr Rae, I would be embarrassed at some of the things she said."

A World Apart by Daphne Rae (Lutterworth, £8.95).



Mrs Rae: Book "has been praised".

Lack of money hamstrings justice Act

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

The Government's law and order policies are being jeopardized by the inability to drill the probation service under the new Criminal Justice Act fully into effect as planned on May 24.

One of the main reasons is lack of cash. Another is that the National Association of Probation Officers (Napo) has moved to ban the introduction of the more controversial measures.

Places under the new community service orders for young people aged 16 to 19 in any case have to be rationed. Mr Michael Day, chairman of the Association of Chief Probation Officers, said.

He is Chief Probation Officer for the West Midlands where 200 community service places for 16-year olds have been approved. The service there calculates that at least 500 would be needed to cater for the courts' needs.

The rationing of places will jeopardize government plans to reduce the use of custody, to which community service is supposed to be an alternative.

Shortage of money will also limit the ability of the probation service to introduce plans to cope with other new measures for juveniles.

Chief probation officers have estimated that £8m is needed if the service is to implement fully the Act's provisions. It is getting slightly more than £1m, Mr Day said.

Probation officers argue that lay visitors will also be given access to any prisoner who agrees to speak to them.

The idea was mooted by members of Greater Manchester Council's police committee to alleviate public disquiet over the treatment of those being held in police cells. The pilot scheme, initially planned for six months, is being closely monitored by the Home Office and neighbouring police forces.

Mr James Anderson, the GMP's chief constable, has given his backing to the scheme. He has often been at odds with the committee in the past. However, he believes the scheme will help ease the pressure on his men and prevent many allegations of mistreatment.

The volunteer visitors, all members of the police committee, attended a weekend conference to learn about custodial procedures, prisoners' rights, rules covering medical examinations and other legal aspects.

Mr Tony Whitaker, chairman of the Police Federation in Manchester, said his members welcomed the move. "From our point of view we can see no problems arising out of this pilot scheme."

Police agree scheme to monitor prisoners' welfare

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Sale room

Dyce painting sold for £110,000

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

Agnew's, the Bond Street picture dealers, have sold a painting by William Dyce for £110,000 on behalf of the parish church of Knodishall, near Leiston, Suffolk. It depicts "Jacob and Rachel" and is one of several versions of the subject painted by Dyce in the 1950s, according to Mr Evelyn Joll, chairman of Agnew's.

Dyce was a friend and foreman of the Pre-Raphaelites. The picture was given to the church in 1946 by the late Mr W. J. Burningham, a farmer. At that time, Victorian paintings were out of favour and the

Overseas selling prices

canvas would have been worth very little.

Until four years ago, when it was realized the painting was valuable, it had been insured for only £400. The church had to obtain permission to sell. Mr Joll said. Shortly after the permission came through, the picture was sold to an English private collector.

Phillips yesterday held a highly successful sale of lead soldiers and figures totalling £35,208, with only three per cent unsold. A Britain set of the band to The 1st Life Guards, 12 figures in all, sold for £1,450 (estimate between £800 and £1,000) to an unnamed London dealer.

Overseas selling prices	
Austria: 50c 20c	Belgium: 10c 5c
Canada: 20c 10c	Denmark: 15c 8c
France: 15c 8c	Germany: 20c 10c
Italy: 10c 5c	Japan: 15c 8c
Netherlands: 10c 5c	Portugal: 10c 5c
Spain: 10c 5c	Switzerland: 15c 8c
USA: 20c 10c	UK: 15c 8c

PARLIAMENT May 4 1983

Labour wants councils to control police

POLICE BILL

Confidence in the police would not be restored until democratic control over them was re-created. Mr Roy Hattersley, chief Opposition spokesman on home affairs, said when the report stage of the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill was resumed in the Commons today.

Police, and therefore out of the hands of the police committees, should put that fear aside. At this point a man in a wheelchair in the Strangers Gallery shouted "What about the bloody disabled? What about us lot then?"

increasingly now, in a way unacceptable to the community. Mr Lyon continued that if there was corruption on a police authority and it was run for party political interests and they said that the police should not exercise any control over Mr X because he was a friend of theirs, an officer was entitled to say that duty was to the court, and that he must enforce the law.

Mr Andrew Bennett (Stockport, North, Lab) said the case of the Manchester police being armed had given rise in a great deal of newspaper comment which did little to improve the situation. He said that such a demand would be met only if the police authority would have been received more sympathetically.

Mr Ian Wrigglesworth (Teeside, Thornaby, SDP) said that few parts of the country outside London and some of the inner city areas were subject to legal privilege; the meaning of personal records and of journalists' material were all agreed to.

Over 1,500 defence jobs going to Glasgow

SCOTLAND

Details of the revised Ministry of Defence dispersal package for Glasgow were set out in the Commons by Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence. This follows a review of the proposals of February 1 in the light of subsequent organizational changes and manpower reductions.

BBC accused of bias on Central America

THIRD WORLD

The BBC and the Panorama team in particular, were criticized for unbalanced reporting of events in Central America by peers during a debate in the House of Lords on expanding Soviet influence in the Third World.

were somewhat suspect. On television recently and especially on the BBC there had been a series of programmes which were deplorably one-sided on the subject of events in Central America. It culminated in a film last week which seemed to him to be more disgraceful even than those which preceded it.

Had the police been under the control of police authorities and elected men and women in the way that education, housing and public health were, the pressure on the councilors to control the police would have been such that the police would have been required to perform in a way which was nearer to the wishes of the people and more likely to protect their interests.

Mr Alex Lyon (York, Lab) said the issue they had to address themselves to was whether the Government had built into this Bill proper control to match the extra power it had given the police. The Opposition did not believe it had.

Under the first-past-the-post voting system it could be a small minority of the electorate who actually put local authority control in the hands of the people who were there. Therefore a police authority would potentially be in the hands of people who represented 10 to 20 per cent of the community.

Mr Patrick Mayhew, Minister of State, Home Office, said this was not a matter of protecting status or class but of the need in the public interest to maintain confidentiality in relationships, for instance that between journalists and those giving them information.

The original clause 9 was deleted from the Bill. The MPs went on to debate clause 10 to the Bill, which deals with the police securing evidence held on a confidential basis before coming to decisions on the various new clauses and amendments which had been tabled.



Wrigglesworth: Damage by left-wing activists

BR coach order. Questioned about investment in British Rail's Inter-City services, Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Transport, said in a written Commons reply that the Railways Board had identified an immediate business need for 60 Mark III day coaches. He had given consent to the board's proposal to order these coaches at a cost of £11,163,000.

False premise to Soviet move. The offer made on nuclear weapons by Mr Yuri Andropov, the Soviet leader, was not a genuine offer, it was a signal that the Russians would now begin to negotiate seriously at Geneva, Lord Belstead, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said during questions in the House of Lords.

Lord Walsley (SDP) said it was clear that the Soviet Union posed a threat in the Third World. On the article in The Times on Central America, he said that Mr Anthony Lewis was an extremely able, objective and well informed journalist.

Chow Mein scores in 'bandit country'

Two Vietnamese "boat people" have been given a warm welcome in the heart of Northern Ireland's "bandit country", as an area so dangerous that British Soldiers are taken inland out of their barracks by helicopter.

Swing door killed professor

Professor Albert Devonshire, aged 71, a retired university lecturer in theoretical physics, died after being struck by a swing door at the Department of Zoology at Bristol University, a Bristol inquest was told yesterday.



Railwaymen and post office workers removing mailbags from the derailed train.

Mail train runs into cement wagons

A train driver was critically ill in hospital last night after his train ran into cement wagons which had been derailed at sidings in Hope, Derbyshire. A spokesman at the Northern General Hospital in Sheffield said that Mr Colin Fawley, aged 45, from Sheffield, had broken both legs.

How East Yorkshire came to be in Humberside

Nine years after local councils were reorganised, there are scores of district councils still hanging in limbo. Where, for example, is the borough of Gedling; what exotic delights are on offer in Medina; how come Sedgfield and Sedgemoor do not relate to the same piece of sedge?



LOCAL ELECTIONS

district of Driffield and the municipal borough of Bridlington. To explain some of the puzzles here is The Times's selective guide to the English districts, to assist readers with tonight's poll results.

Business has been booming since they opened in March with the name Love-Viet-Hoa, which translates to Irish-Vietnam-China.

The Thatcher interview: the Prime Minister talks to Julian Haviland, our Political Editor

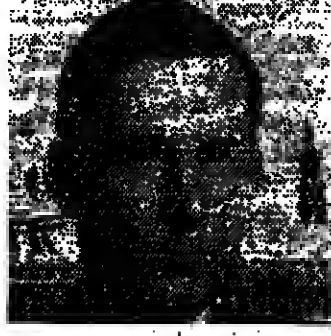
I take no responsibility for those who strike themselves out of jobs

What can you offer the electorate for another term, Prime Minister? You offered four years ago to "rebuild the economy", and there's not much sign of that, is there?

I think you underestimate what we offered. We offered a complete change in direction - from one in which the state became totally dominant in people's lives and penetrated almost every aspect - to a life where the state did do certain things, but without displacing personal responsibility.

I think we have altered the balance between the person and the state in a favourable way and in a way which is much more in keeping with the character of the people of Britain. So that really was a total change of philosophy, away from the all-embracing dominance of socialism to one in which the state has the framework of law, and defence and the rule of law, and the safety net in the social services, but where it still leaves people tremendous scope for their own enterprise, their own self-reliance, their own responsibility. Would you not expect to be judged though primarily on your economic management, and would you expect the electorate to think that the price, in bankruptcies, closures, unemployment, was worth paying? Are you vulnerable on economics?

No, I do not think I am. The recession has been deep and



On the fourth anniversary of the Conservatives' general election victory, Julian Haviland, our political editor, interviews the Prime Minister about her plans for the next Parliament, her attitude to rates reform, trade unions, privatization and foreign affairs.

worldwide. What we had to do was seen to be sound in financial terms, and sound in industrial terms... constraining expenditure, trying to get honest money, that is getting inflation down and not borrowing too much.

But you are being attacked for, and you may in the end be judged by, the level of unemployment and your attitude towards it. Did you ever imagine it would be as high as it is now?

No I did not. I don't think any of us knew how deep this world recession was going to be. One absolutely hates unemployment, but you don't create jobs just by talking.

But Mr Michael Foot has attacked you for your "willing acceptance" of mass unemployment. Is that unjust?

Oh, totally unjust. Mr Foot and the Government of which he was a member, regarded unemployment - I think it was

about 660,000 - as high according to their philosophy, but they were not able to prevent it from rising by one million. That didn't mean to say that they accepted unemployment or that they wanted it. But is there not a difference? You don't accept responsibility for the Government's part for unemployment, do you?

I cannot accept responsibility for those who strike themselves out of jobs, who insist on having overmanning or restrictive practices, who refuse to accept new technology, or who have not got good management, or who don't design products which other people want to have.

What I do accept responsibility for is creating the right financial framework and the right legal framework. I believe we've done that.

One of your Treasury ministers, Mr Nicholas Ridley, once

said that "the high level of unemployment is evidence of the progress we are making", and what your opponents say, and what Sir Ian Gilmour has said, is that your Government is the first to have repudiated the notion that the Government is responsible for maintaining a "high and stable level of employment", to quote the 1944 White Paper. Is that true?

I know that White Paper very well indeed. So much of it is thoroughly true and sound still. Let me read you the last sentence of that foreword: "The success of the policy outlined in this paper will ultimately depend on the understanding and support of the community as a whole, and especially on the efforts of employers and workers in industry, for - this is the important part - without a rising standard of industrial efficiency we cannot achieve a high level of employment combined with a rising standard of living."

There's far more in this white paper than that on the side of my philosophy and my economic practice than anyone else's.

Are you going to the Williamsburg economic summit whether or not there's a general election?

I expect to go to Williamsburg. Do you expect agreement there on some joint programme to get the world out of recession?

If you mean that there's going to be some new formula, no.



Mrs Thatcher: "I think we have altered the balance between the person and the state in a very favourable way." (Photograph: John Manning.)

Action on EEC budget

Do you expect to go to the Stuttgart summit in early June? I expect to carry on and go to the Stuttgart summit.

Do you think the electorate will be impressed by the spectacle of yet another row over the Common Market budget? Impressed, no and I won't be impressed by it. I would be a little bit depressed by it, because I've had to fight that one before. But everyone there knows that, if they were in the position that Britain is, of being one of the two people who finance the Community - Germany being the other one - that they would fight in the same way as I shall. But the objective was a permanent settlement, and you're nowhere near that, are you?

The objective was really to get a different method of financing the community because looking ahead we foresaw that the present method would not work. But I think sometimes it's a weakness of democratic countries; you can point out to them all, including ourselves, things that will happen in the future if you don't take certain evasive action now, and you'll never believe it.

And so it is I think with the community. So long as there was money in the coffers, they never thought we'd come to a crunch when agricultural expenditure would get so great and there wasn't quite enough money to cover it.

Changing union law step by step

I wonder if your new trade union laws will prohibit strikes in public services - among water and power workers? nurses? the fire service?

Strikes were never prohibited in those services. There was an arrangement with certain public utilities, water and electricity, under which you could not break your contract of employment.

Of course that did not stop working to rule, which can be acutely embarrassing, nor did it stop people coming to the end of the contract of employment and then going on strike before negotiating a new one. So it was not as hard and fast as many people thought.

Are you set on compulsory ballots for trade union elections?

I think it's likely that that will find a place in the manifesto if it is not dealt with by a Bill before the House.

If you try to pass more Bills dealing with trade unions, when the unions are weakened by high unemployment, won't it

look like vindictiveness after the two Acts you've already passed?

No certainly not. There is a mass of trade union law, some of which we have set out to change for very good reasons, and more of which still needs changing. But we take it step by step.

But if it's wise to take it step by step, isn't it wise to see the effect of the first steps? You've already restricted picketing and secondary action, you've weakened the closed shop. Most of these provisions haven't yet been tested in the courts.

We've already been in four years, we've done two Acts. Those have been very good Acts. I believe they've played a part in changing attitudes, which is very important, and played a part in coming to a fairer balance between employers and employees, and between members of trade unions. In all the things we've done, we've had reason to believe that the vast majority of trade unionists are with us.

Falklands offer stands

Over the Falklands, are we mishandling the question of the relatives of the Argentine dead by appearing to deny them the chance to visit the graves?

We have not denied the relatives of the Argentine dead the opportunity to visit the graves. We asked the International Red Cross to organize and supervise such a visit. They were not able to do so and also

you know they washed their hands of Deserians.

They said the terms and conditions under which they wanted to make the visit would compromise their neutrality. Our offer of a visit of the close relatives of the Argentine dead to visit the Falklands under the auspices of the International Red Cross, and supervised by them, still stands.

Hope for rating reforms

Have you abandoned the idea of abolishing domestic rating?

The straight abolition would be very very difficult indeed, because the amount of money raised by rates has increased enormously.

Are you talking about reforming rates now? Will you have positive proposals for reform in the manifesto?

I hope so. I expect so. Will it reform mean that householders will pay less?

I think you must wait and see.

One proposal in 1974 was to take teachers' salaries off the rates. Will you do that?

The first thing you always have to look at in politics is "I know what I want to get away from, what am I going to put in its place?" It's no good just ditching something before you have decided precisely what you replace it with, or how you adjust the two things.

Are you tempted to abolish metropolitan county councils?

I'm tempted to do many many things, but I have to consider things with my colleagues and consider what is possible.

More state firms to be sold off

Is privatization still high on your agenda? Will you persist in trying to sell British Airways, the naval shipbuilders, the gas showrooms?

Privatization is indeed high, and it is working. It's absolutely ridiculous that so many industrial and commercial decisions should come up to a Cabinet and to a Prime Minister.

Would profitable coal mines be better off in private hands?

I certainly think there is scope for running the National Coal Board in such a way that the overheads are reduced and that the subsidy the taxpayer has to pay to the National Coal Board could be reduced.

By bringing private ownership to the profitable pits?

I am not going as far as that at the moment, in this interview, but I do hope to be able to show to people that privatization works.

It sounds like a possibility for the next manifesto?

More privatization sounds like a possibility. I think you're a bit ambitious when you start to talk about the National Coal Board in that same breath.

Will education vouchers come forward at last?

I think you must wait.

Balance in the Cabinet

To put through some of your plans, are you going to need to choose a different sort of Cabinet, free from doubters?

No, no, I am very happy with my present Cabinet. We work extremely well together.

You would not have a new Cabinet, as your opponents say, which would be markedly more right wing? You would try to keep balance of the left, right and centre of the party as now?

You always try to keep a balance. You have to take the whole party with you, but your greatest weapon is persuasion

and your powers of persuasion come from your conviction. But there are different sorts of Conservatives. Will people like Mr Whitelaw, Mr Pym, Mr Prior, Mr Walker, whom one could characterize by saying they believe in looking for the consensus of which you've talked with such contempt, be in your next Cabinet?

Consensus is a word which is not used in politics for very good reasons. We in my Cabinet have agreement, to go ahead, we don't need anything like consensus.

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CELEBRATING 18 WORLD RECORDS

Andropov's new offer on warheads provokes a qualified welcome from Bonn, London and Nato but big obstacles remain

Kohl waiting for more decisive move but proposes fresh dialogue

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

Dr Helmut Kohl, the Chancellor, told the West German Parliament yesterday that he would go to Moscow on July 4 to meet Mr Yuri Andropov, and tell him Bonn was ready to continue a dialogue and, with good will, offer the Russians political, economic and scientific cooperation.



Policy outline: Chancellor Kohl explaining his strategy in the Bundestag yesterday.

million foreigners working in West Germany, but said his Government would stop any further influx and would pay for encouraging them to return to their countries of origin.

British deterrent should not be included, Pym insists

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

Britain has once more rejected Soviet insistence on counting its strategic deterrent within the European nuclear balance, while welcoming the latest Russian move as a step in the right direction.

French nuclear weapons can in any way be involved in the disarmament negotiations in Geneva when they resume on May 17.



Mr Pym: A step in the right direction.

Against this force Nato has only 170 American F111 bombers, which is why the United States wants to deploy 572 new cruise and Pershing 2 missiles in Europe from next December.

Hostages 'cross Tigré by mule'

Dublin (AFP) - The 10 aid workers taken hostage in Ethiopia last month by the Tigré People's Liberation Front are on their way by mule to the Sudanese border, it was reported here.

The director of the Irish humanitarian organization Concern, who is in Khartoum, the Sudanese capital, was quoted by Irish newspapers as saying that the 10, who include two Irish nurses employed by Concern, were crossing the Tigré region in the company of guerrillas and were in good health.

Five of the hostages are employed by the British-based Save the Children Fund. They were captured near the town of Korem in northern Ethiopia where they were working to help relieve famine caused by drought.

Arrest warrant for editor

Singapore - A Filipino judge has signed an arrest warrant for the Manila correspondent and the editor of the Hongkong-based Far Eastern Economic Review, David Watts.

The warrants are against Mrs Sheila Ocampo-Kalfors, wife of the Swedish Ambassador to the Philippines, and Mr Derek Davies, the magazine's editor. Label charges were filed against them after the magazine published an account of an alleged massacre of 200 civilians by the military on the island of Samar.

Two jailed for robbing envoy

Cologne (Reuters) - Two West Germans who robbed a Soviet diplomat of about £4 and left him tied to a tree in a wood last winter were jailed here. Olaf Kranh, aged 23, was given six and a half years, and Adam Otten, aged 21, five years and three months.

Kranh said they found Mr Aleksis Popov, aged 55, asleep in his car under a bridge. He beat him with an umbrella before abandoning him in the countryside. Mr Popov was later recalled to Moscow on health grounds.

Connors sued for divorce

New York - Jimmy Connors, the Wimbledon and US Open tennis champion, and his wife Fatti have separated and are engaged in a tussle for custody of their son Brett, aged three. Mrs Connors filed for divorce in Miami, saying that the marriage had irretrievably broken down.

A judge granted an emergency order preventing anybody from taking their son from a penthouse apartment in north Miami Beach, which is valued at about £260,000 and owned by Mrs Connors.

Dentist dies

Strasbourg (AP) - An 80-year-old retired dentist, Szymon Goldmann, run down by a motorist crashing through a crowd of demonstrators, died in hospital early yesterday, police said. A man was due to appear in court.

Bilbao murders

Bilbao (AP) - The bullet-riddled bodies of two policemen and one of their wives were discovered in a garage here. Police said that one of the victims, Lieutenant Julio Segarra, had been gagged and chained.

Premier ill

Vienna (Reuters) - Mr Lubomir Strougal, aged 58, the Czechoslovak Prime Minister, is in hospital for treatment, the Foreign Ministry disclosed in Prague. The nature of his illness was not announced.

Whitlam post

Mr Gough Whitlam, the former Australian Prime Minister, whose Labour Government was dismissed in the 1975 constitutional crisis, was appointed yesterday as Australia's representative at UNESCO in Paris, Reuters reports. He will replace Professor Owen Harries.

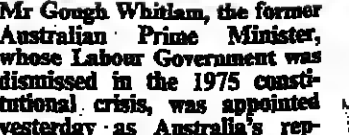
Luther birthday

Eisenach, East Germany (Reuters) - Representatives of churches from around the world joined East German Protestants here to celebrate the 500th anniversary of the birth of Martin Luther, founder of the Reformation.

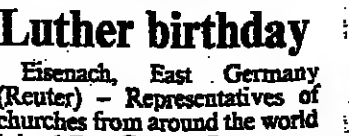
The last laugh

Lusaka (AFP) - A cabaret featuring Peter Maxwell, a British entertainer, has been ordered to be closed at a Lusaka hotel because of jokes in which he allegedly insulted President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia and Mr Robert Mugabe, Prime Minister of Zimbabwe.

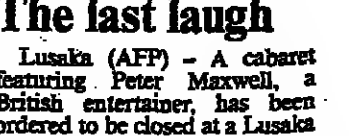
IT'S



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A decisive meeting for Shultz

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

After a day in which nine Israeli soldiers were wounded in occupied Lebanon, Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, last night began a meeting with Mr Menachem Begin, the Prime Minister, expected to be decisive in determining whether he will be able to achieve his optimistic goal of securing an agreement by the weekend.

The meeting, which was also attended by Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Foreign Minister, and Mr Misha Arcus, the Defence Minister, was hastily arranged at the last minute to replace a scheduled and low key session between Mr Shultz, who returned in the afternoon from Beirut and Mr Shamir.

Nicaragua stems attack by rebel invaders

Managua (Reuters) - Nicaragua says its troops have blunted an invasion by 1,200 right-wing rebels backed by Honduran soldiers.

The Defence Ministry said on Tuesday night the invading force was pinned down half a mile below the Honduran border, eight miles north-west of the town of Jalapa.

Three Nicaraguan soldiers were killed and five wounded in the fighting, the statement said, adding that the rebels had suffered numerous casualties.

Honduran troops had crossed into Nicaragua to evacuate wounded rebels under the cover of heavy artillery and mortar barrages.

The communiqué was the first detailed official combat report on fighting against the 1,200 rebels, alleged by Señor d'Escoto, the Foreign Minister, to have entered Nicaragua on Saturday in an operation directed by the US Central Intelligence Agency.

Pope to visit Canada

Ottawa (Reuters) - The Pope is to fly to Canada on September 9, next for a 10-day visit, the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops said yesterday.

He will spend three days in Quebec, a day and a half in the Atlantic provinces, a day and a half in Ontario, two days in the Canadian west and two in Ottawa. A special fund will be created to finance the visit.



Voice of peace: Mr Shultz answering questions from reporters after his Beirut talks, flanked by Mr Elia Salem, Lebanese Foreign Minister (left) and Mr Chafiq Wazzan, the Prime Minister.

future of the Lebanese militia leader, Major Saad Haddad, the nature of joint Israel-Lebanese Army patrols, the future of UN troops in southern Lebanon and aspects of future cross border normalisation.

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Reagan fury at ban on secret fund

Washington (Reuters) - The White House yesterday strongly condemned a Congressional vote to halt covert United States operations in Nicaragua, saying the decision seemed to acquiesce in Marxist terrorism in Central America.

Using some of the harshest language yet directed at Congress, it vowed to try to reverse the vote.

The House of Representatives intelligence committee voted to cut US aid for a secret operation which, President Reagan says, is designed to stop the flow of arms from Nicaragua to left-wing guerrillas in El Salvador.

In a big setback for Mr Reagan, the committee voted along party lines - nine Democrats to five Republicans - while authorizing \$80m (£150m) over the next two years to help friendly countries in Central America to stop the arms flow to El Salvador.

The Reagan Administration has said the only purpose of the operations was to interdict arms bound for El Salvador, but deputy White House press secretary, Mr Larry Speakes, gave a second reason for the covert activity in Nicaragua.

He said covert operations were necessary "in case Nicaragua invades other countries".

In a statement, Mr Speakes said: "We see nothing in the legislation to influence Sandinista behaviour, and the legislation would appear to acquiesce in the ongoing use of territory as a sanctuary for (Salvadoran) insurgents and a base for their command and control apparatus as well as terrorist activities in the region."

Fourth minister named by Egyptian court

From Robert Holloway, Cairo

The Court of Ethics, whose verdict on Mr Esmat Sadat, the half-brother of the late president led to the dismissal of two Cabinet ministers in March, named Dr Wahib Shindy, the Minister for Investment and International Cooperation yesterday in connection with another corruption trial, legal sources said.

The court said that, before he joined the government last September, Dr Shindy, at the time the managing director of the state-controlled Arab Investment Bank, approved a loan worth about £300,000 to Mr Tawfik Ardaway, a food importer accused of cheating the state of some £12m.

Mr Abdellhay, popularly known as "The Chicken King", fled the country in February last year and was later tried in absentia for offences including trafficking in poultry unfit for human consumption. On April 9 this year, the Court of Ethics ordered the sequestration of his wealth, believed to total almost £20m.

Dr Shindy said at his ministry yesterday that he had not yet seen the court's report and had no comment.

Mr Fuad Abu-Zaghal and Mr Ahmad Noub were dismissed as Ministers of Industry and of Supply respectively on March 13 after the court accused them of dereliction of duty.

Five Poles beaten up in convent

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

Polish Catholic church activists yesterday expressed their concern about a mysterious break-in into a Warsaw convent during which five members of the Frimate's Council for Assistance to the Interned were beaten up.

The activists said that some 15 men in plainclothes, at least one of whom had a walkie-talkie radio, broke into the Franciscan convent in Warsaw's Old Town district shortly before the start of Tuesday's demonstration.

They pushed their way past the nuns, broke up chairs and then started beating the five activists - two of whom were women - and left after 20 minutes. A number of those involved in the incident believe that plainclothes policemen were responsible, pointing out that it is rare for simple hoodlums to carry portable radios.

The convent adjoins St Martin's Church which was the centre for assistance to interned Solidarity members and their families. As such it was the object of considerable police interest. Immediately after the incident, priests tried to make contact with Cardinal Jozef Glemp, the Primate, who is in Czechoslovakia presiding over a meeting of Poland's bishops.

This is not the first time in recent weeks that there has been a mysterious assault on church ground, but this appears to be one of the most highly organized. The assailants, who were seen next to the wall of the convent at about 7pm shortly before the attack, evidently hoped that they would get away under cover of the confusion surrounding that evening's demonstration.

The whole of the Old Town district was surrounded by units of riot police and militia to prevent a Mass celebrated at St John's Cathedral from being followed by a demonstration.

The demonstrators' sentiments are in line with recent statements by Mr Mugabe who has turned his attention, and the sharpness of his tongue, from critics and opposition politicians to problems within his own party.

There is speculation that Mr Mugabe may streamline and even amalgamate some ministries. The cabinet is disproportionate to a country of Zimbabwe's size, with 32 ministries. Of Zanu (PF)'s 57 MPs, 22 are ministers and another 15 deputy ministers.

Legal access: The Zimbabwe Government ended five days' defiance of a court order by permitting six detained aides to Mr Joshua Nkomo, the opposition leader access to their lawyers, AFP reports.

A High Court judge ruled on Friday that police must reveal where the six are being held and allow them to see their lawyers.

Mugabe is told: Cut corruption

From Stephen Taylor, Harare

More than 500 women marched through Harare yesterday to the office of Mr Robert Mugabe, Zimbabwe's Prime Minister, demonstrating against ministerial corruption and exploitation by black employers.

The clearly-orchestrated demonstration, the second here in two weeks, intensified speculation that Mr Mugabe will shortly announce a long-awaited cabinet reshuffle. He told the demonstrators that a shake-up from top to bottom in the country's leadership was necessary to achieve socialist objectives.

The women, wearing brightly-coloured dresses and scarves printed with pictures of Mr Mugabe, set out in the morning from the headquarters of the ruling Zanu (PF) party and wended their way through the capital declaring "Caution, rich ministers". Cut down unnecessary ministries" and "Out with black capitalists".

When they reached the rear of the Prime Minister's office they settled down and soon Mr Mugabe came out to address them.

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Frozen embryo team defends methods

From Tony Dabondia, Melbourne

The head of the team which carried out the world's first successful in vitro fertilization using an embryo which had been frozen, said yesterday that he did not believe the procedure would result in more abnormal births.

Professor Carl Wood, head of the Monash University obstetrics and gynaecology departments, said that while his team did not know if the offspring would be normal or not, there was reassuring evidence.

The first point was that in other species where experiments with frozen embryos had been carried out, the incidence of abnormalities was at the same level as normal pregnancies. The other point was that the procedure with humans was carried out at a stage of embryonic development before the foetal organs were formed. He also said that

"insults" to the embryo would either kill it or have no effect.

Turning to the question that individuals born from frozen embryos might become victims of latent defects 10 or 15 years after their birth, Professor Wood said his team had been more concerned at the possible psychological problems of people born in this way. "We encourage parents to be open about the method of conception with their offspring."

The professor said that in a case where parents of a frozen embryo either died or separated, he favoured "pre-natal adoption" of the embryo. "We have been worried about this. We believe the best solution would be to donate such embryos to infertile couples."

community must decide the ethics. The changes in reproduction will have far-reaching effects."

The Melbourne team has about 35 embryos frozen in storage. These came from about 20 parents. Under guidelines drawn up by the National Health and Medical Research Council Ethics Committee, such frozen embryos should not be stored for more than 10 years, although it might be possible to store them indefinitely.

In a statement yesterday, Father Norman Ford, Professor of Philosophy at the Roman Catholic Theological College, said views differed about when the individual human being originated. Most Roman Catholics believed the human originated at conception.

any risks of giving origins to human beings that would be defective due to the nature of the freeze-thaw process itself."

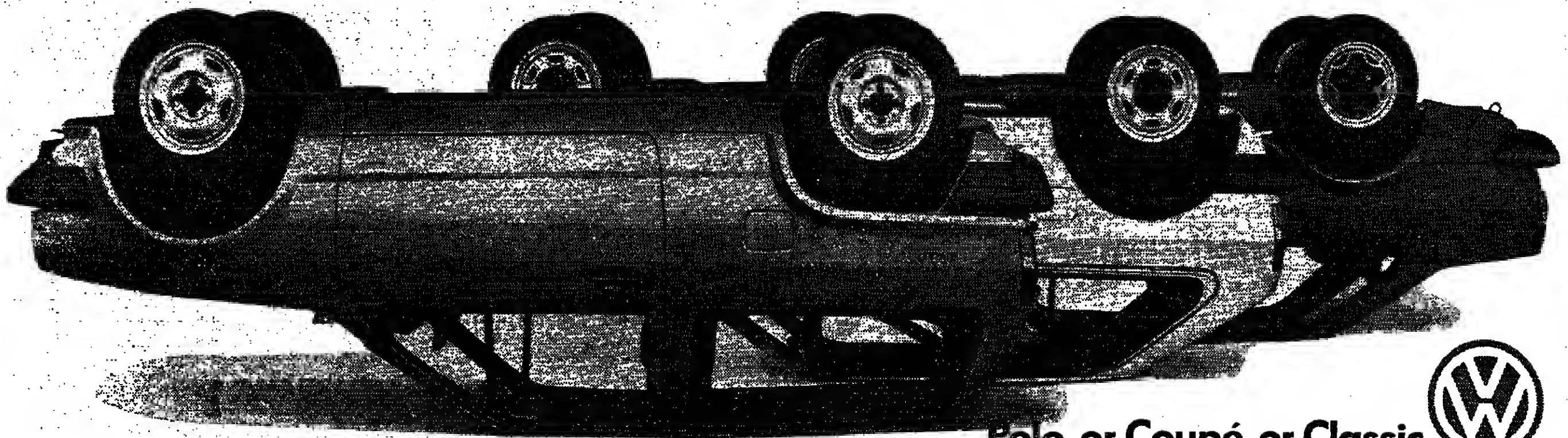
In the academic world, the technique has caused a furor, with the general opinion being that Professor Wood's team has outstripped the community's ability to decide the moral and ethical question of Philosophy - at Monash University, said one of the vital questions was whether the embryo had any rights.

Some people would argue that it was a violation of an embryo to freeze it because the embryo had moral rights similar to those of all people and because the experience of the in vitro fertilization team in earlier trials with frozen embryos suggested that there was little chance of the embryos surviving once it was implanted in its mother.

مركزنا من الامم

Polo. It's a tough choice.

Faced with its record of durability, reliability and safety, the choice between other small cars and the Volkswagen Polo is easy. Faced with the alternatives of a square-backed Polo, the Classic with a boot, or the new Coupé, choosing between Polos is much tougher.



Polo, or Coupé, or Classic.



Iran bans communist party after spying confession by leader

Iran's prosecutor general yesterday announced the dissolution of the Tudeh (Communist) Party and ordered all members and supporters to report to prosecutors' offices...

The Tudeh Party had been banned under Iran's ousted monarch, but came into the open after the 1979 revolution. The announcement came after a televised confession on Saturday by Mr Nouraddin Kianouri...

The agency also quoted him saying that all those engaged in treason and conspiracy had been arrested. He said the guards were in control of the situation and no one else should make arrests.

Nakasone's answer to depression

Singapore (Reuters) Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, the Japanese Prime Minister criticized protectionist trends in trade and called for frank dialogue among world leaders to prevent severe economic depression.

Accord on Sino-French reactor

France and China have reached agreement in principle on the sale of a French nuclear reactor to China to be combined with British generating equipment...

Mr Zhao said earlier that the norms of international relations were being "trampled underfoot" in Afghanistan and Cambodia in a clear criticism of the Soviet Union and Vietnam.

Grenade attack kills 15 near Phnom Penh

Phnom Penh (Reuters) - Fifteen people were killed and more than 30 seriously injured during a recent grenade attack by guerrillas on a crowded market on the outskirts of the Cambodian capital...

Brakes on merchants of Venice

Venice, we know, still has its merchants, and many unwary tourists continue to fall foul of them. But they will run less risk of losing a pound of flesh each visit if the mayor persuades the city of cities to impose a toll of 10,000 lire (\$5) on every visitor who passes the bridge across the lagoon.

His idea is that visitors should leave their cars on the mainland and pay the toll which will cover visits to museums and free transport on the canals. The proceeds will finance the necessary services the tourists require.

Refugees appeal to Princess for arms

After recitation, or more nearly incantation, from the Koran, Habi Ghulam Dastagiri, a vengeful, grey-bearded Afghan from Logar province, told Princess Anne yesterday "Give us arms".



Refugees' plight: Princess Anne talking to a Save the Children doctor at the Badabir camp, which has 5,000 Afghan refugees. The Princess was told why they fled, and about problems they face living in Pakistan.

Advertisement for Bendix Tricity appliances, featuring a large 'Bendix' logo and 'TRICITY' brand name.

Detailed advertisement for Bendix Tricity appliances including a list of products like refrigerators, gas appliances, color televisions, and video recorders, along with prices and store locations.

Advertisement for US-made weapons, including a section titled 'US sends Soviet-made weapons to rebels'.

Advertisement for African gas, titled 'African gas may be piped into Europe', discussing international energy agreements.

Advertisement for Californian real estate, titled 'Californian wins right to walk as he pleases', featuring a man named Mr. Edward Lawson.

Advertisement for interest-free credit, titled 'Interest Free Credit 5 Year Guarantee', with a large 'INSURANCE' logo.

THE ARTS

Television
But who was left happy?

Gloria Vanderbilt's plight was that she was born into an inheritance of several million dollars and a family of vultures. Daddy dead insolvent when she was a baby and Mummy's merry-widow life had to be financed by the maintenance allowance she got for little Gloria, which came from grandfather Vanderbilt's \$5m trust fund. Mummy liked money much more than motherhood and left little Gloria all over the place but, mistakenly, always in the company of a Catholic nurse with a talent for morbid indoctrination.

This was the background of Little Gloria... Happy at Last, scripted by William Hanley from the book by Barbara Goldsmith, which concluded its two-night run on Channel 4 last night and could only have terrified those who believe that money is not everything.

It had all the ingredients of these television best-sellers - sex, mammon, maltreatment, a little God and lots of Twenties and Thirties costumes and vintage cars. It will not be television's fault if we are not all dressing like great-grandmother or great-grandfather before the end of the decade.

There was also the great acting talent in this case. Davis, she did not have much to do but look grand and flash those magnificent orbs, but she did this well without much influencing the action, and expired early in Part 2. Christopher Plummer, as little Gloria's father, did not make the end of Part 1, by which time everyone was at each other's wails and fighting over who should look after little Gloria and hers.

The court case dominated Part 2 when, as the sports commentators say, both sides had everything to play for. Maybe one of the reasons America did not have a revolution during the depression was that most people were outside this courthouse awaiting the latest basket of dirty linen or hanging around for the next edition to read about it.

Inside, a judge, later found to be an alcoholic in attendance at a psychiatric clinic, presided over the interminable warfare which left no vice unturned and must have set quite a few lawyers on the way to being mini-Vanderbilts themselves. Gloria's Mummy, decorously played by Lucy Gutteridge, lost.

Apart from her two sisters, who also married and remarried well, she had little going for her. The antics included her husband's sister, to whom Angela Lansbury gave much substance but whose antipathy remained unexplained, and her own mother, after vengeance because her daughter did not want her around all the time.

The latter part allowed for much acting and overacting and our own Glynis Johns availed herself of the opportunities. Probably it could all have been done in an hour and a half but works of this sort have to justify the expense of the wardrobe and the vintage impediments.

What baffled me most was the little. There was no hint in the epilogue, which retailed the subsequent fate of the participants, that little Gloria, or anyone else, had any kind of happiness. Still, as these things go, it went well. Down go the Vanderbilts and, as Tom Lehrer used to ask, "Who's next? Who's next?"

Opera
Explosion down in the pit

Manon Lescaut
Covent Garden

Nobody need worry that the Royal Opera did not get their new production of *Manon Lescaut*. In an important sense they did. For, as Tuesday's opening night demonstrated to the hilt, this is a performance led not from the stage but from the pit, where Giuseppe Sinopoli makes his British operatic debut conducting the work for the first time: a double premiere quite glittering enough for a Royal Gala.

Mr Sinopoli well shows why he has so quickly become one of the opera world's hottest properties. He actually is hot: he sets scores a blaze. And here he does so right from the start, the first act beginning with a clean pistol shot of orchestral sound and going on from there at racing speed. One fears so rash a tempo cannot be maintained, but it is; the orchestra and the chorus have been disciplined and enflamed enough to make it work. The effect is electrifying, and when the music turns amorous, the continuing rapidity has it bubbling over in nervous exuberance.

I could fill the page describing other moments, but a few examples must do. There is the big entrance before Act III, which by this stage one can predict will be marvellous, but not so marvellous. Mr Sinopoli builds powerfully towards its main climax by pouncing on every note as a separate entity; the tune rears up, quite freed from the dreary repetitive patterns of mere metre, made into something whole, strong and itself alone. Or at the start of the last act there are some extraordinary string effects to accentuate the scourging

heat of the wilderness: a sour glissando, a sudden dry scuttle of *sul ponticello* on the violins.

Of course, one does not go to the opera house in order to hear an orchestral concert, though in this case one well might. Indeed, and most surprisingly, Mr Sinopoli makes a strong case for regarding *Manon Lescaut* as a key work in the history of music.

Hearing the savage discords he brings out at the end of first act, one has to remind oneself that Schoenberg was still in his teens when this opera was written, that Mahler and Strauss had been hardly so violent. Nevertheless, the virtue of Mr Sinopoli's style is not only that it drives attention at the orchestral score but also that it is cogently dramatic and gives vital support to the singers.

This is not at all the same thing as being generous to them. With so much happening so forcefully in the orchestra, Kiri Te Kanawa as Manon and Placido Domingo as Des Grieux have to work hard and work hard they do.

Mr Domingo is justifiably confident enough to save his fullest voice for a few outbursts and generally to adopt a tone variously muted by anxiety, melancholy or romantic ennui. This is a dreamy, doomed student, but the interpretation is fine and strong enough to match Mr Sinopoli point for point, and their collaboration can be revelatory, as when a sudden outburst from both in the second act discloses how near this Des Grieux is to total loss of self-control.

Dame Kiri also rises ably to Mr Sinopoli's challenge. Where at the beginning of the second act he offers the

aural paradigm of a chocolate-box top, the eighteenth century remembered in smooth and silky soft focus, she brings a similar stillness and loveliness to her singing. The aria she addresses to her brother is done exquisitely in this manner, with the lightest of phrasing and sustained notes rising perfectly out of silence.

But this is only one side of Manon. Dame Kiri is less successful as yet in the first act, for, though she has an attractive breathiness to suggest the ingénue, her vocal demeanour is already too ladylike. In the third act this superior bearing is no disadvantage, since it adds to the pathos of Manon's transportation, and in the last act Dame Kiri bravely lets it go, to keep only her purely vocal control.

That, however, is sufficient to give her the range, from a high fortissimo that leaps through the orchestra, without appearing unsuitably big, down to the tight thin line of a musical whisper in which she delivers her dying words. The role is a notable accession for her.

Thomas Allen's *Lescaut*, on the other hand, is disappointing: there are some fine phrases, but he seems temperamentally unfitted to portraying so weak a man. The Geronte is not good; the lesser characters are sufficient. And the borrowed production from Hamburg, though it bears the name of Götz Friedrich, is perfectly safe. It is the music that hits.

Paul Griffiths

This production of *Manon Lescaut* can be seen on BBC Television on May 28, with simultaneous transmission on Radio 3.



Pathos and anxiety: Kiri Te Kanawa, Placido Domingo

Theatre in New York
Sour parody on the fragility of power

What happens to America's most promising authors of serious drama after their comelike ascents? With the exception of Eugene O'Neill, playwrights like Clifford Odets, Tennessee Williams, Arthur Miller and Edward Albee - who produced fine and, in a few instances, great plays before the age of fifty - have subsequently suffered partial to total burnout. Thus a special sense of poignancy, generated by the recent death of Tennessee Williams and attendant reflections on the fragility of artistic powers, surrounded the opening of Edward Albee's new drama, *The Man Who Had Three Arms* (Lyceum Theatre).

Sadly, the play is not only another instance of the syndrome, but a sour parody of it. In a plush lecture-hall setting, with a host and hostess who turn into other characters, a guest speaker called Himself harangues the audience. On his way to achieving upper-middle-class success, Himself suddenly grew a third arm and was feted as the eighth wonder of the world. After gorging himself on celebrity, he lost everything when the arm disappeared, and is now reduced to embittered, self-pitying confessionals.

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Mr Albee's offering suggests various parodies - of his own career of *The Elephant Man*, of Christ's suffering (alluded to several times), even of man giving birth. None, however, is much worth dissecting, in spite of such trenchant observations as Himself's: "The hog I had been living high off of was myself." And such examples of Albee humour as "I didn't hate my parents; that, I think, is a city habit". The glints of intellect and wit only serve to stress their overall absence.

An immeasurably better piece of theatre, though a disappointing play, is Patrick Meyers's *K2* (Brooks Atkinson Theatre). There could hardly be a more awesome curtain-raising: a crag of solid ice fills the stage, and one senses how the Titanic crew must have felt when they saw the iceberg which had brought their doom. Two lives are at stake in the play - American climbers who have



Jeffrey De Munn in the frightening conviction of *K2*

reached the summit of *K2*, the Pakistani mountain which is only 750 feet lower than Everest. In their descent, Harold (Jay Paterson) has broken his leg. Now stranded on a ledge, Taylor (Jeffrey De Munn) must climb back up to retrieve a rope lost in the accident if both are to survive.

The action as Taylor ascends the set designer Ming Cho Lee's frighteningly convincing styrofoam and wood mountain, lit with chilling brilliance by Allen Lee Hughes, is fascinating. One manoeuvre results in Taylor falling and remaining suspended for moments on a swinging rope; another brings

down an avalanche. Unfortunately the dialogue accompanying the action ranges from pretentious to pedestrian to sophomorically vulgar. The best sounds are not the words delivered with conviction and intensity by the actors, but Herman Cheski's audio composition: eerily evocative of deadly winds and earthquakes.

There are no qualifications needed in describing Marsha Norman's new play, *Night, Mother* (Golden Theatre). In Heidi Landersman's set of a middle-class home drearily decorated in beige, pale yellow and green, life is not merely faded, it is about to stop. Jessie

(Kathy Bates) is a woman whose husband left her, whose crime-prone son ran away and whose combined epilepsy, over-eager personality and clumsiness cost her every job she held. As their evening begins, Jessie tells Thelma (Anne Pitlorik), the mother she now lives with, that she is going to shoot herself.

This is playwright brinkmanship at its most exciting. Miss Norman proved she could ably fill an expansive dramatic structure with her prison drama *Getting Out*. Here she turns to crisis drama, paints herself into a corner and makes standing there an apothosis instead of a punishment. The play is about suicide only on its surface. Its subjects are perhaps the most difficult of all relationships - parent and child - and the definition of self. At the climax, the mother cries "But you are my child!" Her daughter answers "I am what became of your child!" In a speech hearding in its simplicity and dignity, Jessie mourns the self she expected to grow into - "Somebody I waited for who never came or never will, I'm what was worth waiting for, and I didn't make it. I'm not ever going to show up. So there's no reason to wait."

Jessie is intelligent and sensitive enough to realize but not to rise above her failures; Thelma is able to endure because she is an unimaginative woman who does not like to think but prefers to do. The depth of portraiture and variety of emotional hues Miss Norman paints in such a narrow range, without once introducing a pastel sentiment, a black-and-white message or a garish action, is remarkable. Indebtedly played by two actresses often lauded by an international press for their performances in the Actors Theatre of Louisville's Festivals of New American Plays, *Night, Mother* is the kind of drama that makes sitting through the inevitable mediocrities and drags of a season bearable, the voice in the wilderness which transfigures that landscape.

Holly Hill

London debuts
Clarity and cohesion in large numbers

A large group made its first London appearance in the week's outstanding event, the Hatfield Philharmonic Chorus, which runs an adventurous series at the Hatfield Forum (*Les Noces* is on the bill for the final concert) came to the Elizabeth Hall with Beethoven's *Mass in C*, Handel's *Zadok the Priest* and, most worthwhile, Szymanowski's *Stabat Mater*. The choir's numbers, over-inflated for Handel, did not prevent them giving splendid weight and attack to the cries in *Zadok* the double-dotting was always sharp, and, though females outdid the male voices in the precision of their runs, the cumulative effect was cohesive and exciting.

They adapted equally well to the lush, rhapsodic language of Szymanowski; the most exotic chords were firmly placed, and there was little of the surrounding cotton wool that one expects from large choirs. The performance was helped by some beautifully poised solo singing from Miriam Bowen and Mary King. Michael Kibblewhite, who conducted, was rarely at rest, always jerking and bending and cajoling his choir to action - but, however awkward some of his gestures looked, they worked, and that is what counts. To listen to the week's other ensemble was like looking down

the wrong end of a telescope: La Fontegara is a Dutch recorder trio, and their Wigmore Hall concert was a subtle, mostly serious affair. A whole first half of intricate contrapuntal pieces gathered together by John Baldwin certainly tested one's concentration; though variations in stage choreography helped, I would have liked more suppleness of colour; the tuning of these bright, well-focused players was occasionally suspect. But their virtuosity was never in doubt, and the scudding sequences of Morley and the jigsaw-like pieces of Tye's "Sit fast" added up to a fascinating picture of English sixteenth-century music-making.

In the second half, they approached the present; Hindemith's Trio was utterly indispensable, but a marvellously witty piece of American naive, quasi-minimalist nonsense by Frederick Rzewski lit up the hall with its high tooting jokes and deadpan ending.

Another trio had less to offer. The Israel Lyre Trio at the Purcell Room was admittedly hampered by its unusual combination of harp, violin or viola and flute: after the Debussy, which they played, of course, what do you do? The talented harpist, Ami Maayani, solved the matter by arranging Beethoven's Op 25 Serenade and

taking the violin part for herself. She played with considerable verve, pretily though not very incisively, but she was not helped by the respectively sloppy and eccentric contributions of flute and viola.

Bax's *Elegiac Trio*, a welcome nod to his centenary and an interesting little work, fared even less well, since the viola's solos were excruciatingly vague and the flute's tuning and rhythms were imprecise; Miss Maayani, again, carried the musical weight of the performance.

Of the week's recitalists, I enjoyed most what I was able to hear of Eduardo Fernandez's guitar recital at the Wigmore Hall. Here is a player of an unashamedly romantic temperament who is not afraid to linger over a harmonic nuance and use the utmost variety of colour. Happily, his indulgences coincide with those of the music he plays: he even made me like Mauro Giuliani's *Sonata Eroica*, so deftly did he emphasize every passing felicity of melody and structure. In addition to pieces by Reginald Smith Brindley, he introduced the *Toccata* by René Marini (Ivero - nothing special, but projected with such verve and responsiveness that it sounded a winner. Among a crowded field of contemporary guitarists, Fernandez deserves a special place.

The oboist Jeremy Polmesar and the pianist Diana Ambache also gave a lively Wigmore Hall recital, diversified with chatty introductions; it was lapped up by a large audience, especially when Mr Polmesar launched into Gershwin on the saxophone at the close. Yet I found I preferred Ambache's crisp, solid piano playing to Polmesar's rather acidulated tone on oboe and oboe d'amore: there were too many awkward moments in Poulenc's lovely Sonata and my second Hindemith piece of the week (his empty cor anglais Sonata) was a less than pleasant experience. A piece of Chinese music, given to the duo on a recent tour of the country, turned out to be purest westernized kitsch.

Peter Gill sounded deeply ill-at-ease in the first half of his Purcell Room recital. He sat stiffly, played with unrelenting tone which rarely drew any warmth from the piano, and only occasionally brought his full arm into his playing action. He had unfortunate memory lapses at the climax of Bach's Chromatic Fantasy and Fugue and in the variations of Beethoven's Op 109, and I was forced to suspect that he did not feel he was doing himself justice.

Nicholas Kenyon

Concerts
Burnished keyboard warmth

David Mason
Wigmore Hall

A piano recital in which the Wigmore Steinway is firmly relegated to the back of the stage for the evening promises to be interesting: it was especially fascinating to hear a nineteenth-century instrument by Robert Worum in this hall, for Worum's father sold music and string instruments just a couple of doors down Wigmore Street, and Robert Worum was one of the first makers to corner the domestic market for uprights, advertising himself as an "Upright and Horizontal Piano-forte Maker".

This example of his grand pianos had a grainy, polished timbre, with a slightly muffled tone which was admirably suited both to the impressionistic haze of the chromatic

finale in Weber's Second Piano Sonata and to the almost operatic, overblown drama of its powerfully sustained opening movement.

Admittedly, Beethoven was embarking on Op 101 at exactly the time Weber wrote this sonata, but judged on its own terms the piece is a considerable success. David Mason played with verve, and drew warm, burnished colours from his instrument; he lacked incisiveness only in the flamboyant Minuet (which Tchaikovsky was moved to orchestrate).

He was considerably taxed by the relentless technical demands of the sonata, and also by the more decorative filigree of Hummel's rondo "La Galante", and there was a certain splashiness of attack which removed some of the precisely controlled effects offered by the piano.

He sounded more at ease in

the first half, tackling C.P.E. Bach, Haydn and Mozart on the more familiar timbre of a Stein piano - or rather a modern copy by Hubbard, which sounded a little jangly in the middle register but had a characteristic cleanliness of tone-colour, and a natural balance between the ranges.

Mason was able to hit the *glorandos* of the Mozart B minor Adagio with real weight (something that would sound absurd on a Steinway) and was able to rattle through the finale of the D major Sonata at breakneck speed without sacrificing clarity. The Bach sonata was crisp, splendidly free, in the rhythms - but, as became increasingly evident through the concert, a little more poise amongst all the panache would not have come amiss.

Nicholas Kenyon

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A Yank at Oxford Circus

MODERN TIMES

A sideways look at the British way of life

Last Sunday, Bob Fromer took one look at the soggy baseball pitch in Regent's Park and turned sadly away. A game of softball (same as baseball with a softer ball pitched under-arm) was out of the question. He and his fellow-players had been looking forward to playing and clobbering the Hyde Park softball team, an older and more established group to which they usually lose.

Bob Fromer is an American freelance audio-visual producer who now lives in Kington, Herefordshire. From April to August, when half of London is pouring into the Welsh Borders at the weekends, Bob is often driving about 150 miles in the opposite direction to play softball with his fellow-Americans in Regent's Park. He first played there in 1972, and by the late 1970s as many as 50 people would turn up to play on Sundays, on the three pitches appropriately situated behind the residence of the American Ambassador.

Numbers have since fallen, but the players still congregate after an afternoon's softball in Maxwell's Cafe in Hampstead. Here they serve a classic line in hamburgers, which can be washed down with every major brand of American beer. It is an architecturally haphazard place, because every time the management gets enough cash it bursts through another adjoining wall, and installs a few more tables. This gives the restaurant an atmosphere of easy-going, slap happy success that appeals to its mainly American clientele. And, in a notice over the till, the staff are reminded that "a soda customer today may be a steak customer tomorrow."

The number of Americans in London has been reduced by the economic recession, but there are still a lot of them here. There's the businessman, built like a chest of drawers with blow-dried hair, snappy suit and an enormous college ring; the professional woman, slim and elegant, who runs in the morning and keeps her wheat-germ in her purse, the way Jane Fonda says we should; then there's the student, in jeans and running shoes with his teeth still behind scaffolding, because his parents know how important it is to have a good set of choppers and a sincere smile in professional life.

Most of them are birds of passage, here for only a year or so before returning to what they always call The States; but from their ranks are drawn those who decide to stay. This may be because they have got themselves into a meaningful relationship, or perhaps an optimum work situation, or perhaps even a positive environment for a balanced work/play interface. Whatever the reason, here they are, part of the band of American expatriates among whom there have been some very impressive names: James McNeil Whistler did for London what Van Gogh did for sunflowers, Harry Gordon Selfridge brought us our first department store, Nancy Astor blazed the trail for women in Parliament, and was frequently at loggerheads with Winston Churchill, who was brought to us in no small measure by Jennie Jerome...

Organizations such as the Democrats Abroad and the Republicans Abroad keep them in touch with the US political scene, and both these groups are campaigning hotly for a Congressman to represent their interests. Since many Americans resident in England still pay US taxes, they feel they have a right to representation (a right for which, ironically enough, their ancestors dumped a lot of tea into Boston Harbour and subsequently sent us packing just over 200 years ago). They are very aware of America's geographical and political isolation, and as inhabitants of Europe, they have a lot to say on the inflammatory topic of cruise missiles.

Because they speak the language, even if it's not quite the Queen's English, London's Americans do not have to rely on each other for company and support in the way that non-English speaking foreign communities do. Though they play softball together, and have been known to retreat into the *New York Times* or even McDonald's for a taste of home, they like to surround themselves with English people, and they have a natural talent for highlighting the local colour. In the presence of an American, a Brit's Britishness is thrown into relief. The occasion is given an international touch, and both parties can indulge in amusing speculations on the nature of America and Europe, à la Henry James. Once into this sort of conversation, it will not be long before the subject of Yankee commercialism crops up. This is America's original sin, and they talk about it the way we talk about the class system - deploring its injustices, and admitting that it seems too ingrained to uproot. One of the results of this of this commercialism is that you are expected to devote every moment of your waking day to furthering your career, just to keep up with your friends and colleagues with whom you discuss the appalling pressures of competition. There is rarely time in America to do the things they rave about in London, like taking a walk in the park or spending an evening at the theatre.

There was a time, not so long ago, when the British got very worked up over the Brain Drain. Every doctor and engineer trained in Britain seemed to be hoofing it to the United States, where all the money, the technology and the opportunities were. The long-standing trickle of Americans into England was never so dramatic, but it is nice to know they're here, enjoying an old European culture in a city that has built up its own comfortable patina over hundreds of years.

They've got the knowhow, but we've still got the *savoir-faire*. Text and interviews by Artemis Cooper



SALAD FREAK

Andrea Tava
Los Angeles, California
Painter and print-maker

SOUL FOOD

Charles Angus
Washington DC
Dancer and Teacher

PIZZA AL GUSTO

Paul Gambaccini
New York, New York
BBC disc jockey

HOMINY GRITS

Alice Faye Eichelberger
Waco, Texas
Psychologist and physiotherapist

STEAK & BEANS

William Beaver
Grand Junction, Colorado
Executive, J Walter Thompson

Everything David Hockney went to L.A. for, I came to London to get away from. People say "Don't you miss the sunshine?" - but constant sunshine is boring, and I love to watch the seasons change. I came over here seven years ago and I love it. I like the neighbourhoods and the little shops. Culturally, London is the capital of a small country and a large empire. It's at the centre of everything, you can be in touch with it all and still remain quiet and private. I paint at home but I do my print-making in Wapping, where there's some very exciting work going on, although I feel the British art scene is stuck. It's too academic and clabby, it's a real struggle for young British artists, and there's so much less funding for them here than in say Germany or Japan. In L.A. art and architecture are designed to be seen from a car at 45 mph, because it's a car culture and people don't move unless they're in cars. Here you look up at buildings, or peer at paintings in gallery windows as you walk along, and you can stop and enjoy them.

I love going back to Washington, but after a bit I think, I want to go home. My home is where my work is. My big break was in London, when I staged and directed *Babbling Brown Sugar*, and things started to happen for me in England. In New York I would have been in a queue of hundred young black choreographers, but when I came here I was the only one. But London is very tough for black dancers - I can only think of five now working in major West End shows. Black people here seem less aware of their roots than they are in the States because they came to England by choice, wanting to assimilate themselves. American blacks were brought there by force, so they cling to their traditions and family structures. There is a danger of getting too laid back - it's so polite, and no one likes to raise their voice. Some things I don't mind picking up - my mother says I sound more English than the Queen, because I use words like 'cheers' and 'ta, and 'arf'. But if I thought I was losing my get up and go, that's the day I'd leave.

I could have carried on being a radio executive in the States - I also could have cracked up. I hated being told the sort of music I had to play, and the sort of safe, "controversial" guests to get on the talk shows who could be guaranteed to get the listeners phoning in, but wouldn't say anything very profound. Working for the BBC I get to do what I want. I like living in London - it satisfies all my passions: good theatre, good Italian food, and a soft-ball team in summer. The music and entertainment business is all within walking distance, and there's a clubby feel in the way people run into each other all the time. The role of the DJ is more social here, too. I discovered this on one of our *Fun Days Out*, when Tony Blackburn and I were bouncing down a race-track on rubber balls. It was agony, but I looked up and saw all these people cheering - and I thought there must be more to this than I realized, if one can get this sort of crowd reaction just by bouncing along on a rubber ball.

I was a psychologist in Texas, and I came to London on a scholarship to train as a physio-therapist, with seven suitcases and two small boys. I love the parks and the changing seasons and being able to walk everywhere, but it was hard at first - I remember sitting on the steps of London University and crying, because I had just sat through two hours of lecture with a posh professor, and I hadn't understood a word he said. I work now with emotionally disturbed children, and they try to teach me how to say things like 'boy' and 'Tuesday' properly. London's my home now, and my kids love it. I could not live in the houses and wear the clothes that I have here in Texas. Material things are so important there that the children would suffer if I sent them to school in anything but Lacoste T-shirts and Levi jeans. Southerners are like the English in that they are very hospitable and out-going on the surface, and private inside. English men are so courtly. They woo you with flowers and cards.

London is a very exciting place visually - it's a treat to see so many parks and buildings so well taken care of. It's the tallness round the edges that bothers me, because it is unnecessary. For example, the council will renovate Victorian houses with great care and expense, and yet the lawns outside them aren't mown or swept. When you ask why you're told it's the council's job. I've been in England ten years now, and my wife is British. I don't feel like a stranger, although in my work in corporate communications I find being American particularly useful. I can leap class barriers. I once thought I'd move back to the States. I was barely off the plane, and the first words I heard were "move your [] bag, mack". There's a general civility here that I find so important - though that too can go to extremes. I saw a lady on the tube poke a man in the eye with her umbrella, and his immediate reaction was "ooch - I'm frightfully sorry".

FLAVIA CORKSCREW'S GOOD FOOD GUIDE

FLAVIA IS AT HER LOCAL SHOW JUDGING THE HOME-MADE JAM.

ON THE RIGHT THERE IS PLUM JAM

The point of this jam is not gratification at tea-time, but to help develop a race of people with stainless steel false teeth!

It's an old recipe nearly all stones and very likely to break your teeth.

It has a clearly defined reflectin order.

ON THE LEFT THERE IS RASPBERRY JAM

Actually... raspberry jam is, in fact, bramble jelly these days. Nor do we exclude gooseberries. Nor Kumquats. The main thing is to be thickly spread.

IN THE MIDDLE THERE IS QUINCE 'N' DAMSON COMBINED JAM

But these jams are empty! Where's the jam?

...Without using their recipes.

We specialize in blanc-mange. This is the last one we're making before we break the mould.

Exactly! Just what we want to know: how to get jam...

Cuckoos in sheep's clothing

MOREOVER... Miles Kingston

My mailbox has been flooded with letters about the authenticity or otherwise of birds which have featured in BBC films and world history generally. I am printing a few of the more trustworthy; many, I am afraid, look like fakes to me.

From Chestnut Donnelly

Sir, I was interested to read that the noted German war historian Hugh Trevor-Roper had been tracked down to Cambridge where he had adopted the new alias of Lord Dacre - a somewhat clumsy sobriquet for one who used to be so sharp. Now, I fear, his faculties are failing and he no longer seems able to distinguish between the genuine and the manufactured.

I myself have no doubts that the Hitler diaries are fake. In one of the extracts I have seen, Hitler writes "Spring, 1943, and I see in the London Times that they are again heralding the arrival of the first cuckoo. My God, these English live in a dream world."

It so happens that I was, at the time, ornithological adviser to *The Times* letter editor, and I well remember that we were forbidden to print letters during the War about the arrival of the cuckoo on the grounds that this might give away valuable knowledge about the annual climate to the Germans. I remain

From David Irving

Sir, I became convinced that the Hitler diaries were genuine when I read the following passage: "Spring 1943: The weather is getting better and already the first Wasserzerman's ptarmigan has arrived on its

ling migratory trek from the desolate marshlands of Turkey. A good sign!"

This particular bird was only identified by Klaus Wasserman in 1978 and has only, I believe, been mentioned in one small survey in *New England Bird Studies* Vol XXIII. This publication is not on sale in Europe. Therefore any East German forgery factory could not have known about it!

I have just realized that Hitler could not have known either. I am convinced these diaries are fake.

Yours faithfully,
PS Not the David Irving, of course.

From Sinclair Roentgen

Sir, I work in the BBC department at Bristol which dubs noises on to otherwise uninteresting films and I would like to draw to your attention an anachronism which takes place in real life. The starting, as you know, is a famous mimic and will imitate anything around him. But how do we explain the fact that startings are still to be heard imitating steam engines when there has not been a main line steam engine near Bristol for fifteen years?

Yours faithfully

From Mrs Elsie Penland-Glory

Sir, I would have thought the answer to the previous letter was quite obvious. When parents read stories to their children, they find it very hard to imitate train noises of the modern kind - diesel trains are hard enough, but electric ones are impossible. Therefore they go on doing steam noises. These

startings, sir, are imitating parents imitating steam trains yours snuggly

From Henry the Talking Avocet

Sir, I refer to a recent piece by whoever writes your editorials in which the phrase occurs: "as likely as a bird doing a musical ball act".

I have been touring the music halls and clubs of this country since 1948, to enormous applause ("The funniest act seen in Colchester for many a month" - Essex Bird Studies Vol XXIII). I believe I am the

first bird in the world to perform with a human dummy on my knee, which is harder than it sounds because, as you know, avocets have no knees. On my first appearance in Bradford I was near despair because the dummy kept falling to the ground. But it had the audience in stitches and I have kept it in the act ever since.

I have not read the Hitler diaries, but I believe Lord Dacre once came up on stage to assist me with my popular "Flying Houdini" routine, in which I get out of ten rubber bands in mid-air. He was very helpful but somewhat maladroit.

Yours awe

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 53)

ACROSS

- Uncover (6)
- Porray (6)
- W.C. (3)
- Weaving fibre (6)
- Account (6)
- House cleaner (4)
- Proper (8)
- Disappearance (6)
- Sprightly (6)
- Of dance (8)
- Fruit (4)
- Egg (4)
- Convoy manoeuvre (6)
- Turkish cap (3)
- Skill (6)
- Native of Delhi (6)

DOWN

- Below (5)
- Umpire (7)
- Appetise (7)
- Classic architecture (5)
- Lecture (5)
- Lap (7)
- Boldness (7)
- Bath swivel (7)
- Not called (7)
- Sheff (5)
- Burgary (5)
- Mamix (5)

SOLUTION TO No 52

ACROSS: 1 Fester 4 Fitman 7 Code 8 Normally 9 Escapism 12 Owl
15 Triver 16 Stance 17 DOE 19 Telnet 24 Regatta 25 Fool 26 Rantal
27 Yeasty
DOWN: 1 Fiat 2 Siderwise 3 Run up 4 Paris 5 Toad 6 Allow 10 Alert
11 Miter 12 Obnoxious 13 Ne'er 14 Stud 18 Obese 20 Extol 21 Essay
22 Wart 23 Play

مركزنا من رطل

BOOKS

Period rich in disorder

The Squandered Peace

By John Vaizey

(Hodder & Stoughton, £14.95)

In the second news section of the New York Times every Sunday there is a valuable feature called "Follow-up of the news" in which interesting stories that have leaked away unaccounted in previous issues are continued and brought up to date...

John Vaizey's The Squandered Peace can serve, on its much larger scale, a comparable purpose for all those who feel they may have missed something on the turbulent world scene during the post-war years. A history of world politics from 1945 to 1975 is bound to be a bit of a jumble, as events that are important in more than one segment of the whole...

The Americans have a lot of grand ideas, which are not all talk, but at a pinch get suppressed by crude economic self-interest. The impenetrably chilly French did some silly things with their empire, but more parochially they kept their heads down to very great advantage...

More generally, two larger themes wind through the book. The first is the failure to secure a settlement in Europe with the Russians that would be more peacefully inclined than the current nose-to-nose confrontation at the Berlin Wall...

Anthony Quinton



She may look as romantic as a Victorian painting, but she is a real fisher-girl baiting lines at Runswick Bay, near Whitby, c 1880, from A Hundred Years Ago by Colin Ford and Brian Harrison (Allen Lane, £25).

The watch that never ends

Siegfried Sassoon Diaries 1915-1918

Edited by Rupert Hart-Davis (Faber, £10.50)

The War Poems of Siegfried Sassoon

Edited by Rupert Hart-Davis (Faber, £5.25)

the voice of Siegfried Sassoon that sounds the most bitterly, the most savagely to us across the years. He's a cheery old card, granted Rifle to Jack...

Yet the voice belongs to a tall, reclusive, foxhunting man, who often seemed so remote from his peers and from his troops...

Open these Diaries and step smartly into hell. 30 June 1916, Somme, 6pm. Pleasant trenches; mustard, charcoal and white weeds growing across the trenches...

What is the tone of that? Among all the poets of the First World War - young Charles Thomas, Brooke, Nichols, Thomas, Graves, that Olympian tower of pity, Owen - it is

from the immediate, raw diary entries. (Compare for example the long entry of 25 May 1916 O'Brien in the mine crater with "The Raid" chapter in the Memoirs.)

Above all they show how Sassoon's intolerable state of mind built up to his formal anti-war Protest of June 1917...

This is the central drama of these Diaries 1915-1918, which read in conjunction with the re-issued War Poems (133 of them, 14 previously unpublished, nearly all now datable to a specific month of the War, if not an actual day) reveal a major writer being slowly battered into the full, terrible consciousness of what war means...

They overlap with Sassoon's Memoirs of an Infantry Officer (1930), and the openly autobiographical Siegfried's Journey (1945), and show with what astonishing faithfulness he constructed these finished literary works of retrospective,

Richard Holmes

Goss for literati

The Lyttelton Hart-Davis Letters

Correspondence of George Lyttelton and Rupert Hart-Davis

Volume Five (John Murray, £12.50)

My dear George,

How many million words have we by now exchanged? Little did we imagine in the first English course at Eton, and I fell under the spell of your infectious enthusiasm for literature, that our letters would end up being published in volumes that seem to stretch out to crack of doom.

I am told that the attraction for the new generation is the slightly old-fashioned mixture of bookish anecdote, gossip, and literary allusion. And it is true that neither of us is particularly in love with the modern world. Gosh, how I feel like Housman's Terence: "I, a stranger and afraid in a world I never made."

But re-reading these letters, I am struck by the fun we had out of 1960, as well as the urbanities of literary correspondence, and the antiquarianism of our private lives. You cannot take Lady Chatterley uncut, and I

Philip Howard

am alarmed at being called as a defence witness at her trial. We read some good books, didn't we, though I regret to have to tell you that I still have not got round to reading How Green We ate some good meals, and enjoyed some gentle gossip about everybody from John Sparrow to Bernard Levin.

I do seem to labour with the proofs of Oscar Wilde's Letters; need to be constantly reassured that you are not being an epistolary bore. We give posterity our views on everything from Jonathan Cape to Martin Chuzzlewit. Bully for posterity, as one of the young men said the other day. But I sometimes think that they must lead jejeune lives these days to find so much nourishment in our private letters when they could be writing their own letters, reading their own books, and leading their own lives. I dare say that you and I are as unfashionable as dinosaurs or Dr Johnson. But I don't mind; well not about the latter, anyway. And now, what do you think about H.K.M. ...

Philip Howard

Towards Apocalypse

Graffiti By Peter Van Greenaway

(Gollancz, £6.95)

The fog is pulverized people. For the Bombs have fallen on Britain (wasn't it something to do with Poland?). The survivors are bawling through that smudging mist, to lay enraged siege to where the Establishment has established itself below ground, in V.I.P. splendour that it prepared for years before. The hero-narrator, Alexander Selkirk, travels across country writing his experiences on whatever brickwork has managed to remain upright - in the writing on the walls.

Mr Van Greenaway's rip-toothed savagery runs not just on a Greenwich tract, but savages all the attitudes that have slouched to Apocalypse along Coronation and Downing Streets - both aspects of manipulated illusion. It is terrifyingly persuasive and its mix of adventure and nightmare is formidable. Buchan raised to the power of Kafka.

The Caligula-like ending is a mistake, for it lets the reader off a hook sharpened by anger to draw much blood. But, as a whole, it is a mind-stormer of a narrative that makes you read headlines afresh. And forces you to realize that the fog starts here.

A Secret History Of Time To Come by Robie Macauley (Corgi, £1.95). Another future shocker, this one set in an America now given over to a wild Nature, through which Kincaid rides like a parody-pioneer looking for a new frontier unattainable because mankind is once more setting limits on the future. Within its context, almost lyrical.

The Unreasoning Mask, by Philip Jest Farmer (Granada, £1.95). Beware the Bolig Grant, slant-bang encounter with the god of a planet that brings about our hero's reformation as well as taking him into weird adventures. Mr Farmer's stylings of the physical to the mythic is quite extraordinary in SF terms.

Smurise On Mercury, by Robert Silverberg (Gollancz, £7.95). Mother Hubbard was, in fact, an experimenter to bring on the clones... Quirky, very, very readable compilation by one of the genre's superior entertainers.

Tom Hutchinson

The Compass Rose, by Ursula Le Guin (Gollancz, £7.95). Panteism seeps into all these stories, waterlogging some, but juiting others with fresh insights. A send-up of "Star Trek" freezes chuckles, but the smile raises over with "The New Atlantis" as totalitarianism refrigerates free will. I still prefer her longer, more developed pieces, though.

The Proud Robot, by Henry Kuttner (Hornby, £1.50). A great SF matter at play. The adventures of his loony scientist, Galloway Gallegher, thinker, drinker and all-round stinker. Good fun from a writer who died too young.

Far From Home, by Walter Tevis (Gollancz, £6.95). An eponymous novella and some shorter stories from the author who wrote "The Man Who Fell To Earth": still a sense of displacement, of a loss to be endured. The poetic imprints of a fine writer's trail.

The Unreasoning Mask, by Philip Jest Farmer (Granada, £1.95). Beware the Bolig Grant, slant-bang encounter with the god of a planet that brings about our hero's reformation as well as taking him into weird adventures. Mr Farmer's stylings of the physical to the mythic is quite extraordinary in SF terms.

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Tom Hutchinson

The fall of a dynasty

The Last Prince of Wales

By David Stephenson

(Barracuda Books, £7.50)

After 700 years failure still clings to the Prince of Wales, mauling the tragedy. One Nationalist even refused to attend the anniversary ceremony last December on the grounds that a head of state who had contrived to get himself mugged was not worth his attention.

ancestral lands. In the second, five years later, he lost his life. It is the second war which underlined the failure. For historians, the accepted version has been that he did not even start it, being dragged into it like a sleep-walker by his brother David, that master of the triple crown. He was killed mysteriously, not at the head of his troops, but in a dusk encounter with a small party of Englishmen.

The importance of this book is its examination of the five years between the wars. Dr Stephenson shows that the Prince of tradition, the broken figure brooding in the mould, was in reality his old, ruthless self, intriguing against his enemies, punishing those whom he could get his hands on.

The last war, he maintains,

was to the Prince's own master plan. And when it was over there was a feeling among the barons that there had been an end of things. A dynasty that had had its origins in Roman provincial administration had fallen.

Dr Stephenson's narrative is an excellent condensation of what happened. The one missing feature is the price: £7.95 is a bit steep for 78 pages of text.

But his achievement has been to restore the tragedy. The great gambler of Welsh history made his last throw at Glamorgan, and the stone which records his death has inscriptions in the two languages, the Welsh version being longer by one word. It is in memory of Llywelyn, LAST Prince of Wales.

Byron Rogers

NED SHERRIN A Small Thing Like An Earthquake. The funniest autobiography I have read in a long time. Wonderfully zesty... detailed, racy, witty... vivid... valuable... anything but lightweight! Michael Billington, GUARDIAN. The best show business autobiography I have read since Mess Hart's Act One. Peter Noble, SCREEN INTERNATIONAL. ON SALE NOW

DEFT AT HIGH WIRE SUSPENSE WITH THE GRITTY TONE OF A LE CARRÉ. BILL GRANGER SCHISM A MISSIONARY PRIEST, LONG THOUGHT DEAD, TURNS UP AFTER TWENTY YEARS AT THE US EMBASSY IN BANGKOK. Leo Tunney has information in his secret diary wanted not only by the CIA and KGB but also by the Vatican's network of "holy spies". This is a brilliantly crafted thriller by a talented and original novelist. SCHISM Bill Granger £1.95

Fiction Odd consequences and cultural baggage

Jumping the Queue

By Mary Wesley (Macmillan, £7.95)

The Polipors, Tom and Matilda, have got it all worked out. Fit and fitful now, they know they won't always be. So they make a decision: when hardening arteries become a bore, they will preempt the Great Reaper by doing away with themselves in the manner in which they have conducted their lives - painlessly, tidily and together.

Then Tom spoils everything by dropping dead. Matilda is heartbroken but also respectable. She is far from finished, in fact just getting nicely into her prime. But life without Tom is bloody, besides, the cat and dog are both dead. Only Gus the gander and her rakish, rarely present son Clapd provide Matilda with any incentive to carry on. It isn't enough, so she puts her affairs in order, makes up a picnic, and heads for her favourite beach.

Which is where we find her at the beginning of Jumping the Queue. Needless to say, her attempt to find a watery grave is frustrated, first by a gang of teenagers and then by the presence of a young man with intentions similar to her own. His face rings a bell. Like everyone else, Matilda has been reading the newspaper stories about Hugh Warner, the Wykehamist Who Killed His Mother.

She takes an instant shine to the fugitive, and invites him back to her cottage, ostensibly to plan his future. But Hugh's curiosity forces her to examine her own past, with increasingly bizarre consequences. As a tip up to Tom's to meet old friends confirms that nothing in Matilda's life with Tom was quite what it seemed to be. Exactly the same can be said of Miss Wesley's first excursion into adult fiction. It is a virtuoso performance of gulfed

plotting, deft characterization and implicit wit. How sad that its extraordinary entertainment value will probably disqualify Jumping the Queue from winning any of the major literary prizes.

I write this after reading two other books which, unlike Miss Wesley's, were shortlisted for the BBC Bookshelf/Arrow First Novel Competition. Georgia Lewis's The Water Tree (Gollancz, £8.95), the eventual runner-up in the competition, is the better of the pair. It's quite an engaging account of how a tightly-knit Cornish family is affected by the arrival of their orphan cousin. Hester is a strange child who becomes even stranger as the years go by. Since this is romantic fiction, most of the other characters are stereotypes. Not a great deal happens, and the ending is disappointingly predictable. The book is overwritten, too, and a kinder editor would surely have weeded out some of the clumsy symbolism.

But Miss Lewis's purple prose reads easily, which is more than can be said of the breathless little sentences in Julia Leslie's Pershara (Gollancz, £8.95). This Giti's Own Paper Ripping Yarn of skull-duggery in Sri Lanka tells of how a young English girl solves the mystery of her friend's drowning, exposes an international drug-smuggling ring, and prevents the overthrow of the Bandanabale government. In less than two hundred pages. Unfortunately, despite all the action, things don't happen quickly enough to prevent the eye flicking on gems like the following: "Now, through her own stupidity, she was burning through the Yala at the mercy of a man who filled her with dread." Or, even better: "She ran her fingers through her hair in desperation. The smell of fish made it hard to think."

After this, the stench of

vanity which rises from every page. Elia Kazan's new book smells almost sweet. Although a novel in its own right, The Anatolian (Hodder & Stoughton, £7.95) is a continuation of the story of Stavros Topouzoglou, the hero of Mr Kazan's earlier America America. The year is now 1909, the place still New York, and the ingratitude of his family, coupled with his failure to rise fast enough in the oriental rug business, drives Stavros into the arms of Althea Perry, a Venetian girl suffering from a serious case of nostalgia de la boue. Althea is pretty poisonous, but then so is everyone else in the book, and the way they treat each other makes The Carpetbaggers read like a Victorian guide to social etiquette. This is a compelling rather than an edifying tale, told with brutal directness and the assurance of a born storyteller.

John Nicholson

Duluth

By Gore Vidal (Heinemann, £7.95)

Edna Herridge, who died on page 8, has just finished shooting (on page 168) a wedding scene for a TV soap opera for Universal in Hollywood. Removing her make-up in the trailer afterwards her eye is caught by a scene on the television from the soap Duluth, not to be confused with "Duluth", the one she has just been shooting. The scene disturbs her. She streaks off in her Budget rented car only to smash into the Santini moving van which is coming round the mountain. Dead again, but free now to appear in countless mini-series, soaps and features.

Whenever there is a war and giving, mature and loving, there we shall find her just so long - and no longer - as mimesis

Bryan Appleyard

The unsold stock of Vanity Fair caricatures (reviewed by Anthony Quinton in December) has returned to Britain for the first time for 50 years. It has been acquired by Clive A. Burden, antiquarian book-seller, of Rickmansworth.

There, by Christos G. Doumas (Thames & Hudson, £16). Handsome and authoritative recruit to the "New Aspects of Antiquity" series, edited by Colin Renfrew. The island whose eruption 35 centuries ago, can be linked to the collapse of Minoan Crete.

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WALTER LORD Author of A Night to Remember THE MIRACLE OF DUNKIRK 'Out of the beaches into a legend... Walter Lord, a master narrator, pulls it all together from the British, French and German viewpoints' - Yorkshire Post £8.95 Allen Lane

THE TIMES DIARY

When in Rome...

That Kenneth Macmillan is to direct Jill Bennett in Strindberg's sadly neglected *Dance of Death* at the Royal Exchange, Manchester...

Just a pale green

This week's newsletter of the ecological pressure group, Green Alliance, has a front-page piece by Tom Burke...

According to Faulxhall's advertisements, the Nora is "deceptively large". Since it looks quite little I suppose it must be terribly cramped inside.

End of an epoch

Giuseppe Sinopoli, who conducts the hugely successful *Manon Lescaut* at Covent Garden, has newly abandoned composition...



Of course I've nothing to declare. I don't work here.

Save fffs!

Robin Swales, of Polyplus Laminates, tells me the response to his new Green Piece movement to save the pound note has been overwhelming...

Jam on it

Prizes of a Tiffany trophy, \$2,500 and a Carnegie Hall debut were not the biggest for saxophonist John Harle when he won the Concert Artists Guild Amcon award in New York...

The GLC is advertising for two information officers required as part of its plans for regenerating industry and employment within London.

Sinking feeling

The Inland Waterways Association's press conference today in announce National Waterways Fortnight was cancelled for lack of interest.

The Lord Mayor of London, Sir Anthony Jolliffe, is being steeped in sherry. The producers presented him with 50 dozen bottles of specially blended amontillado yesterday...

The Home Secretary replies to his critics

Prisons: no easy way out

by William Whitelaw

When I became Home Secretary in 1979 I set myself four objectives in prison policy. First, to open up the prisons to the media and so stimulate public interest and debate...

Second, to obtain the money necessary for a substantial programme of new prison building and for improving and maintaining existing prisons.

Finally, to encourage a more economical use of our prisons by promoting and extending non-custodial sentences and by emphasizing the value of shorter sentences in appropriate cases for non-violent offenders.

At a time of rising crime, I had no illusions about the daunting nature of the task. I also appreciated that greater public debate would certainly lead to criticism.

Here I want to carry the debate forward by posing the basic dilemma of overcrowding. I consider it essential to do this because many of the arguments, and indeed the criticisms put forward, simply do not face up to the gravity of the problem.

Much has been achieved in the last four years. I immediately accepted the May Committee's recommendations on pay and I have also implemented or am implementing many of the other recommendations on matters such as departmental organisation, industrial relations and training.

Capital expenditure is now almost double what it was in cash terms in 1979-80. Four new prisons are under construction and six more are at various stages of design and planning.

The arguments, legal and ethical, over the Voluntary Euthanasia Society and its activities will not end with the court case recently concluded in which Mr Justice Woolf ordered floods of darkness on the questions raised.

I must first draw attention to the title of the society's do-it-yourself suicide manual; it is called *A Guide to Self-Deliverance*. This rich and striking example of Newspeak suggests that the society's leaders are by no means so sure of themselves as they would like to think.

But if there are rigid and inescapable safeguards in any such proposals, what onward consequences can there be? In the answer to that lies one of the most terrible truths about mankind.

But Tobago perceives itself largely as a client of Trinidad rather than an equal partner. Its affairs, its development, its finances, are still effectively controlled in the Trinidad capital, Port of Spain.

Relations between the House of Assembly and the central government in Port of Spain are going through another of their periodic crises.

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compared with 15,700 in 1979, an increase of 15 per cent.

Prisons must provide places for all those whom judges and magistrates decide should be sent there. I do not believe that the criminal justice system would have the confidence of law-abiding citizens if the executive were regularly to override judicial decisions as a means of escaping from difficulties.

There is no certainty that government action, such as executive release, would have a lasting effect on the prison population since courts might adjust their sentences to the effective level they considered appropriate.

So there will always be uncertainties about the future levels for which prison accommodation is needed. There are limits to the accuracy with which you can project the future from past trends.

This programme will require considerable resources, but so would any other. Those who think that good prison conditions can be achieved simply by reducing the prison population must face certain facts.



Wandsworth prison, London: three to a cell, and the overflow in police cells.

On the one hand, the Government must provide more prison places through a continuous programme for new prisons and also improvement and maintenance programmes for existing prisons.

I can go further. If the prison population remained at the present level we should, given the continuation of present programmes and the substantial numbers of additional staff necessary, crack the overcrowding problem within 10 years from now.

This programme will require considerable resources, but so would any other. Those who think that good prison conditions can be achieved simply by reducing the prison population must face certain facts.

Bernard Levin: the way we live now

Exit, pointing the way to the unthinkable

themselves (the survivor of a suicide pact was sometimes prosecuted), which was anything but absurd in view of the danger that, for instance, elderly and inconvenient relatives might be steered, not altogether with their approval, in a direction from which they would not return.

At this point it must be said that the Voluntary Euthanasia Society certainly does not need me to draw to its attention the dangers of which I have given one example: it is fully cognisant of them, and has proposed practical ways to minimize them.

But if there are rigid and inescapable safeguards in any such proposals, what onward consequences can there be? In the answer to that lies one of the most terrible truths about mankind.

Relations between the House of Assembly and the central government in Port of Spain are going through another of their periodic crises.

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there have been those who, with the same overwhelming justification have stayed their hands, and not regretted it.

All this, however, concerns the social and legal aspects of suicide, and these, though important, do not constitute the essence of the real question, which is: was Hamlet right when he said that the Almighty had fixed his canon against self-slaughter?

It should be noted first that almost all of the great religions set their face against suicide; for Roman Catholics it is a sin, even to contemplate it (Dante puts the suicides in the seventh circle of Hell).

Here we must tread carefully. I suppose most people have known suicides; a surprisingly large number have contemplated taking their own lives. Who are we to judge, say, those who are suffering from some incurable and agonizing disease, or who face some other insupportable misery or loss, and anticipate the inevitable by their own hand?

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Relations between the House of Assembly and the central government in Port of Spain are going through another of their periodic crises.

Ronald Butt

No, CND simply isn't gospel

When Mr Michael Heseltine drew public attention to the predominantly socialist and communist connections of the leading figures in CND he was accused of smearing it.

Alternatively, the complaint could relate more to the well-meaning rank-and-file members of CND who, though they may predominantly read *The Guardian* and would never dream of voting Conservative, none the less regard themselves as without formal political affiliation.

Outrage has been caused among CND sympathisers by Canon Hume's daring to raise the question of a possible conflict between Monsignor Bruce Kent's obligations as a priest and his function as a leader of CND.

The Cardinal's analysis of the conflict of loyalties has virtually been substantiated by Mgr Kent himself, who has observed not only that it is right for priests to be involved in issues like nuclear disarmament, but that if the church was not a participant "then I don't think it's the right church for me."

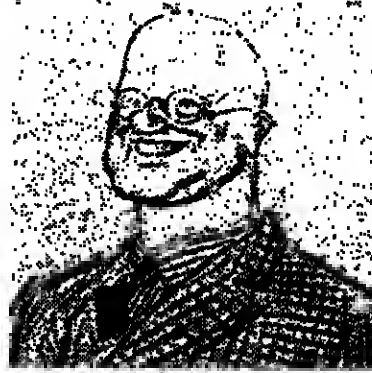
The case against the politicized clerics of CND is not that they believe (as any individual might) that CND tactics are good for peace but that they invest their particular campaign with the quality of an ultimate moral imperative, though other Christians believe that it adds to the risk of war.

Whether you fight to defend yourself, your wife, your child or your neighbour is an ultimate religious question. How best to avoid war is political calculation (though it must be taken in good faith), and any CND priest who claims more than that for his activities cannot, surely, understand what he is doing.

P. G. Wodehouse

Printer's Error

Jeeves and Bertie Wooster will be chuckled over while anyone reads a novel. But P. G. Wodehouse had another literary gift - as a writer of comic verse. This poem, from a collection published in the 1960s, demonstrates that there is nothing new in the very occasional mipsprint



As o'er my latest book I pored, Enjoying it immensely, I suddenly exclaimed "Good Lord!" And grieved the volume ceaselessly. "Golly!" I cried, I writhed in pain. "They've done it in me once again!" And furrows creased my brow. I'd written (which I thought quite good) "Ruth, ripening into womanhood, Was now a girl who knocked men flat And frequently got whistled at."

Prepare, I said, "to meet your God Or, as you'd say, your Goo or Bod Or possibly your Gov." A few weeks later in to court I came to stand my trial. The Judge was quite a decent sort. He said, "Well, rocky, I'll be passing sentence in a jiff. And so, my poor unhappy stiff, If you have anything to say, Now is the moment. Fire away. You have?"

Jeremy Taylor

مركز من الرمال



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ONE INCH AT A TIME

It is good that the latest Soviet offer in the disarmament negotiations has been welcomed in Washington, albeit cautiously, as a sign of progress. The proposal to negotiate an agreement which would achieve an approximate equality both as regards medium-range delivery vehicles - missiles and aircraft - and in the number of warheads carried by them, goes some way towards meeting Western objections about the triple-warhead SS-20 missile. Clearly any proposal from the USSR which might break the stalemate at the Geneva talks must be fully discussed by NATO, and no opportunity for balanced reductions should be lost from an excess of suspicion.

But a note of caution is justified. The offer was made public at a Kremlin banquet for the East German leader, Erich Honecker, and was not an official proposal at the Geneva talks, nor was it made to a high-level Western visitor. Of course, the leader of the Soviet Communist Party, Yuri Andropov, speaks with the full confidence that all his statements made in public bear an official stamp of approval. There will be no open objections from any unconsulted Politburo member and no risk of criticism being expressed by Warsaw Pact allies.

Nor, however, was there any possibility during the banquet of elucidating the precise position regarding the British and French nuclear deterrents. Comrade Andropov stressed that the USSR was prepared to reach agreement "with due account for the corresponding armaments of Britain and France" and that it would be in the event of a reduction of the number of warheads on British and French missiles that the USSR would reduce by an equivalent amount the warheads on Soviet medium range missiles.

Yet the NATO allies have been adamant in insisting that the British and French deterrents, being chiefly long-range strategic weapons, cannot be included in the intermediate nuclear forces (INF) talks between the United States and the Soviet Union, nor can they be considered in any way equivalent to the Soviet intermediate-range SS-20 missiles. Both the French Foreign Minister, Claude Cheysson and the British Under-Secretary at the Foreign Office Malcolm Rifkind, made this point very strongly during their recent visits to Moscow.

Moreover, the Soviet proposal did not discuss British and French plans to modernize their deterrents, which would involve an increase in the number of warheads, and including aircraft will complicate negotiations. The Soviet leader talked of maintaining "an approximate equality between the USSR and Nato", doubtless meaning that the agreement would relate also to the European powers. With the modernized weapons, included, the latest Soviet proposal would not involve a greater reduction than in the offers already made by the USSR.

General Secretary Andropov emphasized that the implementation of his proposal would leave fewer medium-range missiles and warheads in the European part of the USSR than before the deployment of the SS-20 missiles. But, this merely revives the issue of their destination. Neither the Chinese nor the Japanese would be reconciled to redeployment in the Far East, and the removal - possibly temporary - of SS-20 missiles beyond the Urals would do much to allay Western fears.

Moscow has rejected resoundingly President Reagan's "zero option" and also his later

proposal of an "interim option" which would reduce the number of new US missiles to be deployed in Western Europe, provided the USSR agreed to cut SS-20 missiles in return. Soviet spokesmen have denounced bitterly the United States for not paying sufficient attention to earlier statements about arms control made by Yuri Andropov directly to the countries of the West.

Leading American newspapers are accused in *Pravda* of "hushing up" such important proposals as convening a meeting of Soviet and American scientists to discuss the consequences of creating the vast anti-missile defence system announced by President Reagan, or signing an international treaty banning the deployment of weapons in space. Moscow has accused both President Reagan and the Nato Secretary-General, Joseph Luns, of spreading lies about the "Soviet threat" in order to nullify the "peace movements" and achieve military superiority over the USSR in preparation for a nuclear war.

Such allegations do nothing to promote an atmosphere of trust in which the Geneva talks can be expected to bear fruitful results. Every word spoken in public by the Soviet leaders is available to citizens of Western countries. It is the peoples of the USSR which are deprived of the right to compare the statements made by Western politicians with those of their own leaders, and of influencing the decisions of their government on disarmament.

Western caution, although understandable, should never exclude willingness to pursue every possibility of genuine agreement with the USSR. The latest Soviet offer is at least a promise that the complex negotiations at Geneva will continue, and this must be to the benefit of both sides.

APATHY AT THE PARISH PUMP

It makes a difference whose colours fly from the town hall flagstaff. In some areas the quality of local administration is immediately apparent in the flowerbeds along the boulevards, the absence of planning blight, a palpable sense of civic pride. Good local government does not flow from the closeness of a council's connexions with Central Office or Transport House.

In Birmingham sound, and moderate policy has been a prerogative of alternating Labour and Tory administrations: similarly in Leeds; coalitions in the town hall - as Liverpool has shown - can be a recipe for disaster. The culture of municipal politics is diverse, so all praise to the civic activists from all parties and none (ratepayers' associations still form a useful leavening for the party pie) who tramp the streets with leaflets and registers providing the citizenry with at least the opportunity to take part.

Today's contests are, whatever the psephological burdens they are being made to carry by pundits and prime ministerial advisers alike, local elections. The 369 town halls facing the popular test between them command a "local state" costing more than £25 billions of public money: there ought to be more than enough opportunities to reward and punish the councillors reveling in that most

exquisite pleasure of spending other people's money.

In almost every one of the financial changes made by the present government since it introduced its first local government Bill in the autumn of 1979, a vital piece of machinery has been the willingness of electors to turn the rascals out - if councillors were "over-spending" or found wanting according to the new scales of evaluation introduced along with the block grants and comparative costings with which the Department of Environment has recently been preoccupied. Local electors now know volumes about the comparative cost performance of their town halls and the achievement of value for money by their refuse collectors, planners, bus drivers, librarians and road-menders.

In an ideal world, as conceived by Mr Tom King and his civil servants, voters would go armed to the polls with one of those voluminous lists of council costs prepared by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy. But, alas, this has not happened nor is it likely today. Large-scale apathy is sadly a constant element in municipal polling - and was so long before this government was accused of the sin of centralization. After an exhaustive study of council elections in 1964, a political scientist concluded:

"There is little support in all this (data) for a theory of local government that is based on the notion of the self-governing community, limited to an area that can encompass the local loyalty of its population." The judgement is harsh, but its validity was reinforced in the 1970s by a reorganization of boundaries and functions which has further increased the distance, geographical and psychological, between the people and their local governors.

Grand thoughts of civic participation seem to fit ill with the practical reality of cesspool emptying in Fenland or fire-fighting in Durham or the control of sex-shops in Southampton. Yet councils can do these things more or less cheaply, more or less efficiently, more or less on behalf of the public rather than the vested interests of their own staff.

Local government is awash nowadays with sufficient information for judgments to be intelligently made - in a city such as Birmingham, the choice would probably be Mr Neville Bosworth and the Conservatives. Today's election ought not, primarily, to be a beauty contest for national party politicians. It is, in the nature of all local elections, an interweaving of parochial issues with national policies and moods. Let the parish pump not be forgotten.

THE MERGER HURDLE

The reluctance of Sotheby's the auctioneers to sell itself to the highest bidder - in this case to self-made New York based financiers with no background in, or experience of, the art market - reflects the dilemma of the Government when they seek to implement a coherent and logical merger policy. It is the conflict of head and heart, of belief in free markets and their tendency to regulate things over time in the best way for society as a whole, and the desire that things British should remain British and be helped to do so.

Yesterday Lord Cockfield, the Trade Secretary, moved boldly where many less positive ministers might have feared to tread, and referred the proposed acquisition of Sotheby's to the Monopolies Commission. In doing so he over-ruled the expert advice of the Office of Fair Trading and its head Sir Gordon Borrie who took the view that the takeover should be allowed to proceed.

This decision highlights yet again the peculiarities of monopoly and mergers policy in this country. Yesterday's decision has nothing to do with monopoly - Sotheby is not a monopoly in any recognized sense and even if it were, its acquisition by a different set of proprietors would not effect this aspect of its trading. Rather the reluctance to the commission is made under the broad catch-all provision of the 1973 Fair Trading Act which, after outlining areas of concern under which

mergers should be examined, including competition, regional policy and maintenance of exports, then added that references could also be made and decisions reached with regard to the "public interest." So in this respect Lord Cockfield makes a fair point when he says that the Sotheby's battle has aroused the public imagination. It does not follow, however, that the public interest would be served if the bid were subject to closer official examination and in this case there is certainly no evidence that it would.

Unfortunately the reality of the reference is more complicated. The experience of recent years shows that things seldom stand still once a merger is referred to the Commission: roughly a third of bidders drop out rather than submit to the six months of bureaucratic wrangling and uncertainty, a third find their bids blocked, and the remainder get clearance. Those odds are poor enough for the bidder, but there is a further consequence, for in many cases the six-months reprieve granted to the defending company allows it to order its defences so that it is then impregnable to renewed attack.

The upshot is that any company which finds itself in receipt of an unwanted bid - and most bids are unwelcome at least in the boardroom - now seeks as a first line of defence to have the bid referred regardless of

whether it has any implications for prices, market share, or competition. In short the Commission is being used to frustrate the free workings of the market place rather than to counter those occasions when market power is abused.

The second peculiarity of British policy is the quite unusual discretion which is given to the Secretary of State in these matters - a discretion incidentally which is in no way tempered by any requirement to explain or justify his decisions. So not only can he decide quite independently when a bid should be investigated, but once the investigation is completed he has the further right to veto a negative finding.

The City is now littered with the rumps of deals which a commission reference was supposed to resolve - the Lonrho battle with House of Fraser, and the isolation of the Royal Bank of Scotland to name but two - which suggest that pragmatism is no long-term substitute for policy.

It suggests further that Lord Cockfield's instincts were correct when he earlier this year prepared a statement aimed at clarifying the government's attitude on what was acceptable and what was not. That statement was in the end not published for reasons which were never fully explained. But as yesterday's decision shows, the need for such clarification remains as great as ever.

Snag in portable pensions plan

From Lord Byers

Sir, Ignoring the fact that 0 behaves differently from other numbers can lead to some elementary mistakes in arithmetic. This is equally true of the arithmetic of pensions.

It is unfortunate that the recent paper by the Centre for Policy Studies on the subject of pension rights for job-changers has been greeted by some as the answer to the problem, since the paper falls into just this mistake. A central point of the paper's argument is that younger members should have not only their contributions but also their employer's contribution removed from a final salary pension scheme and invested in a personal annuity.

In a final salary scheme the employer meets the balance of the cost after taking into account what the employee's contributions will buy. For younger members there is no balance to be met since the member's own contributions will purchase all the pension he has earned so far. Thus the employer is spending nothing on his younger employees and diverting that nothing into a personal annuity will produce a pension of nothing.

It is odd to talk, as the paper does, about the traditional attitude that the employee should receive no more than a refund of contributions when leaving, when a Social Security Act requiring more generous treatment was passed no less than 10 years ago.

Claiming that the promise of two-thirds retirement pay is an illusion for most employees is also peculiar. It is precisely because changing jobs is a fact of life and has been for many years that the vast majority of pension schemes do not promise two thirds of final pay but one sixteenth for each year of membership.

In fact a target of two thirds would be very high for the majority of people since the effect of adding on the basic state pension for a married couple and allowing for tax and National Insurance contributions is to create a higher net income just after retirement than just before at levels of earnings up to about £11,800.

Many people who work in pensions would like to see more done for the early leaver, but real progress demands a greater awareness of the position and a greater awareness of the fact that any real improvement has a real price tag attached.

Yours faithfully,
BYERS, Chairman,
Company Pensions Information
7 Old Park Lane, W1,
May 3.

A tax on energy

From Professor Ian Fells

Sir, The news that the European Commission is to propose a tax on energy consumption within the EEC is welcome. Some years ago I suggested that an energy-added tax (EAT) was to be preferred to VAT as it had the advantage of being quantifiable; those articles that had consumed large amounts of fuel in their manufacture would have been taxed most heavily. I made the suggestion to show that imaginative taxation could be used to encourage energy conservation.

A very simple example at the domestic level would be to make identifiable energy-saving expenditure on insulation, double glazing or temperature instrumentation tax-deductible. The EEC hope, of course, to raise money from an energy tax but additional energy conservation benefits could accrue. The tax on petrol is an example of a revenue-earning tax which has also encouraged the development of new, energy-efficient car engines.

It cannot be denied that the blunt instrument of the price mechanism has achieved a measure of success in conserving energy but it is very unsophisticated. A carefully structured taxation approach to energy conservation could restore the impetus which seems to have dried up as oil prices have stabilised and what is still a very high level.

Yours faithfully,
IAN FELLS,
University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Department of Chemical Engineering,
Merz Court, Claremont Road,
Newcastle upon Tyne,
April 29.

Service anomaly

From Mr B. R. Carron

Sir, I would like to lend my support to Mr Jack Ashley's article (April 20) relating to servicemen being prevented from suing the Crown or another serviceman for negligence. This causes considerable hardship to many families.

If it were not incorporated by statute such an arrangement would never be upheld by the courts.

Only this last week I have had to advise a serviceman that he had no right of action as a result of injuries sustained whilst in the Services.

Reform of the Crown Proceedings Act is long overdue. It causes unnecessary hardship to those who have suffered injury through no fault of their own. Servicemen are prepared to offer their lives for their country without compensation being paid. It is too much for them to expect that if they are injured as a result of negligence, which occurs other than on active service, they should be compensated?

Yours faithfully,
B. R. CARRON,
The Gables,
Lower Wamborough,
Swindon,
Wiltshire,
April 26.

Keeping the law within bounds

From Mr S. C. Silkin, QC, MP for Southwark Dulwich (Labour)

Sir, In your leader, "The wrong courts" (April 30) you contrast the decision of Woolf J. to refuse relief to the Attorney General in his civil action to stop the publication of *A Guide to Self-Deliverance* with the decision of the Court of Appeal to give injunctive relief to local authorities against unlawful Sunday traders. The common ground was that in both cases the actions complained of were alleged to constitute criminal offences.

You rightly comment that civil actions to prevent the commission of an offence or to declare that a defined act would be an offence were rare before local authorities became vested with powers previously enjoyed by the Attorney General alone.

It is surprising that the Attorney General thought it right to bring the "Exit" proceedings since the strongly held view that civil proceedings should only exceptionally be brought to restrain acts made criminally unlawful or to declare such acts to be offences was greatly reinforced by the unanimous decision of the House of Lords in the well known case of *Gouriet*. In that case I was fortunate in having the advice of Treasury junior counsel, Mr Harry Woolf (as he then was), before deciding to refuse Mr Gouriet my consent to proceedings in the Attorney General's name.

The dangers of prejudging the very different factors involved in a criminal case were forcibly described in *Gouriet* by Lord Dilhorne, amongst others. Whilst it is within the Attorney General's discretion whether to bring such proceedings, Woolf J. in the "Exit" case relied heavily on these very different factors in deciding that relief would be inappropriate. I agree with his view, which I should have expected the Attorney General to anticipate.

The situation described by you is, however, anomalous. It is understandable that local authorities, faced with a repeated nuisance for the commission of which Parliament

has provided penalties which are more a licence fee than a deterrent, should wish to enlist the stronger deterrent of injunctive relief. None the less, as you rightly say, using the civil courts to enforce the criminal law is an extremely dangerous exercise. It is in my view, so dangerous that Parliament alone should sanction it.

The Attorney General's discretion can safely be left with him because he is subject to Parliament's control. In all other cases there should be a strong presumption that when Parliament makes conduct criminal, it is intended that the criminal law alone to be used and that the clearest possible implication from the statutory language, is needed to displace that presumption.

It would then be for Parliament to decide whether, for example in health and safety legislation, civil in addition to criminal relief should be available. Without such a presumption the law is, and will continue to be, anomalous and obscure.

Yours faithfully,
SAM C. SILKIN,
House of Commons,
April 30.

Churchill and Jews

From Mr Oscar Nemon

Sir, Every time there is a political vacuum in the Middle East, as there is at present, and disunity among the Arab leaders, there is an open invitation to Soviet Russia (possibly signed by the PLO) to move in and to reduce them all to slavery.

Sir Winston Churchill pointed out many years ago the ultimate options that will determine the future of this troubled part of the world: either the Arabs and the Jews accept each other, for global reasons, and Jew and Gentile are reconciled in a permanent and mystical way or, as we know, an apocalyptic catastrophe could result.

Churchill understood the beneficial consequences of such a grand reconciliation. Speaking of the hopes of the Jewish people for a homeland, after so many centuries of waiting, he prophesied in 1921 in Jerusalem that the state of Israel "will be realized here, not only for your own good but for the good of the world".

Maybe it is not too late to consider how Sir Winston's wisdom might help us today to resolve the conflicts in the Middle East by mobilizing the conscience of the world.

I am convinced that his great insight into the "Palestinian problem" came from his own brand of religion - a blending of belief and scepticism. As a deist, he had no difficulty in acknowledging the transcendental meaning of Jerusalem and in appreciating the phenomenon of the Jewish people in the world. He was fond of quoting the saying that "God deals with nations as they deal with the Jews", and there are many who believe that Churchill was granted victory in 1945 because he had championed the Jewish cause consistently since 1906. He said: "You have prayed for

Jerusalem for 2,000 years and you shall have it."

Apart from the cosmic dimension in which he saw the Jewish struggle, he also respected the Jews' contribution to civilization in more finite ways, such as in their abolition of slavery by the institution of the Sabbath. On one occasion he remarked that "We owe to the Jews a system of ethics which, even if it were entirely separated from the supernatural, would be the most precious possession of mankind - worth, in fact, the fruits of all other wisdom and learning together."

If Churchill were alive today, I feel sure that he would say that the time had come for mankind to show its gratitude to the Jews for this great bequest in the realm of ethics by a reciprocal generosity - by accepting and coming to terms with Israel and with Jews in every land. Maybe the true meaning of messianism is that we should accept, first of all, the principle of peace in our lives and throughout the world, while waiting for the arrival of a "prince of peace".

I can imagine Churchill, with his unique sense of history, proposing that the concept of Jerusalem is a much part of everyone's heritage that it would be most fitting for the United Nations to have its headquarters there. Think how inspiring it might be if the international peacemakers of the future were to look at the whole world from its historic centre - from Jerusalem, with its luminous name of "City of Peace" and its extraordinary status as the focal centre for three world religions, rather than from the edge of the New World!

Yours etc,
OSCAR NEMON,
Pleasant Land,
The Ridgeway,
Boars Hill,
Oxford.

Finance for films

From Mr Jarris Stoddart

Sir, Mr David Hewson, in his article (April 13) seems to be unaware of the fact that the feature film industry is an endangered species, not just in England but everywhere. Does he not know that it receives some sort of subsidy in practically every country in the world apart from the United States?

Many of the Australian films that have received such critical acclaim could not have been made without government support. Recently the Canadian Film Development Corporation set aside £18m to help private production companies and independent producers. For every dollar of the fund, the producer must raise at least two dollars from other sources and within five years the fund is expected to increase to £30m. Is there really a concern that a budget of £1.5m for the National Film Finance Corporation is too generous?

The idea that culture can be made to pay for itself doesn't work for ballet, opera or the symphony. Why should it for feature film in the eighties which finds itself increasingly in the same position? The film business is expensive and risky, with uncertain budgets and uncertain results. But the rewards are worth it and out just in financial terms.

In Quebec you sometimes hear the expression *la rentabilité culturelle*, which, roughly translated, means "culturally profitable". Does Britain realize that it is exactly what it has achieved internationally with its films and television? It is a resource which is renewable, but only with combined public and private investment.

Yours faithfully,
J. STODDART,
European Representative,
Director-Environment,
British Railways Board,
1 Grosvenor Square, W1,
April 22.

Railway architecture

From Mr Bernard Kaukas

Sir, Charles McKean's description of the Denmark Hill saga (feature, April 25) gives the misleading impression of a reluctant British Rail being dragged along by a local society, and only when the brilliant idea of finding a beneficial use for the restored building was put to them by the society did they agree to treat.

The converse is the truth: from the outset it was made clear to the Camberville Society that, since there was no operational requirement for the area of the burnt-out premises, it was a *sine qua non* of the exercise that a commercial or community use had to be found for the rebuilt centre pavilion.

With this in mind Jeremy Bennett, the Southwark Environment Trust and British Rail have been working together closely and in full accord to attract the welcome and generous contributions from the Historic Buildings Council and the GLC, which are being matched pound for pound by British Rail.

For the past three years my board has been inviting all interested and responsible authorities and organisations to enter into joint partnership with us to bring the pump of urban renewal in our decaying city centres by cleaning and improving our crumbling Victorian infrastructure.

We are meeting a growing and enthusiastic response based upon results such as Manchester Victoria and the Salford bridges, and our active long-term involvement with the Manpower Services Commission in the cause of helping the young unemployed. I am confident that Charles McKean might, in retrospect, wish to applaud and encourage such initiatives.

Yours faithfully,
BERNARD KAUKAS,
Director-Environment,
British Railways Board,
222 Marylebone Road, NW1,
April 29.

Unacceptable face of cable TV

From Mr Walter Hayes

Sir, It takes three days for *The Times* to reach me here in the United States and longer for me to respond by letter. I nevertheless hope that it is not too late for me to comment on Howard Davies's rhetorical question: "Do we really need the BBC?" (feature, April 26).

The fundamental fallacy behind all the arguments advanced by the prophets of cable television is that it would be better than the established system and would also offer a wider choice. Experience in the United States proves that neither is true. New restaurants open up here all the time but the food does not get better or more varied and they are invariably forced to resort to sales promotion and special indigestible offers to keep their tables occupied.

It would be impossible to discover any memorable programme or service that has been created as a result of cable. For the most part the cable services consist of movies and while it is pleasant to be spared the constant battering of commercials, this benefit rarely seems worth while. Apart from this, cable fare includes endless sporting cooties and news programmes and news itself has become a form of entertainment to which opinion is more reshaped than fact.

There is no evidence either that the growth of television channels creates better ideas. New networks scrape barrels to feed the new monsters. Even the old networks could not fill their schedules without the monotony of endless "repeats".

There is a finite number of competent television producers, writers and directors. The old faces move from channel to channel and change remains remarkable for its sameness.

Nothing is more fun than pulling down institutions and there may be further joy in savaging the BBC bureaucracy, but not even management consultants can reasonably justify an attack on BBC standards. If some of those engaged in this debate in Britain were able to sample the BBC World Service and its contributions to public broadcasting in this country, and compare it with the rest of the stuff on networks and cable, I suspect they might take a more balanced view of the most respected broadcasting operation in the world.

It is the quality of television that matters and without it choice has no meaning.

Yours sincerely,
WALTER HAYES,
1341 Glendale Circle,
Ann Arbor,
Michigan 48104,
USA,
April 29.

Post-coital pill

From Dr J. O. Drife

Sir, Many people (including many doctors) assume that coception is usually followed by pregnancy. This is not the case. Fertile couples having intercourse at the time of ovulation have an 85 per cent chance of coception, but half of those coceptions are normally lost with the next menstruation, and a further 20 per cent in the early weeks of pregnancy.

Failure of implantation is therefore a common process in nature. Its causes are unknown (though many of the lost coceptions are probably abnormal). Post-coital contraception interferes with nature only by making it more likely that this natural process will occur.

I am sorry if these figures add further complexity to the legal debate on this subject. To me they emphasise the impossibility of finding a working definition of "the start of life". Life is a continuum, and although the question of when it begins may vex the armchair theorists, it is mischievous of them to suggest resolving their debate by prosecuting people who are trying - with true Christian charity - to help women in distress.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES OWEN DRIFE,
University of Leicester,
School of Medicine,
Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology,
Clinical Sciences Building,
Leicester Royal Infirmary,
PO Box 65,
Leicester,
April 28.

A woman's place

From Lord Davidson

Sir, It might interest The 300 group (April 28) to know that in the large vote on Tuesday in this House, when the Government was defeated during the committee stage of the Housing and Building Control Bill, of the 278 peers who voted, 31 were peeresses - 11.1 per cent.

Yours faithfully,
DAVIDSON,
House of Lords,
April 28.

Thought for the day

From Mr H. A. Guy

Sir, I was at first staggered and then fascinated by the heading of the Science report on Page 2 of today's *Times* (April 29) - "Carvings twice as old as thought".

We are familiar with the description of Petra as the "rose-red city, half as old as time" but this is something unprecedented. How old is thought? A new school of philosophy (or anthropology?) seems about to emerge.

Yours hopefully,
H. A. GUY,
7 Camden Way,
Dorchester,
Dorset,
April 29.

Pensions

The trend towards earlier retirement makes pensions an increasingly important subject.

The National Association of Pension Funds today begins its diamond jubilee conference at Brighton. Margaret Drummond reports.

As delegates to the National Association of Pension Funds' Diamond Jubilee conference sit down at the Metropole Hotel in Brighton today they cannot complain about 1983 being a dull year.

There has been some radical thinking about pensions from the right as well as the perennial suggestions from the left. Change is in the air. The Government is seriously thinking about the possibility of giving individuals freedom of choice in pensions. It is studying recommendations that the earnings related part of the state scheme could be privatised. It has pressed the pension funds to do something about the plight of early leavers and it is considering important new legislation to cover pensions, currently somewhat inadequately catered for by trust law.

Attempts are also being made to set up for the first time an independent, low cost advice and arbitration service for employees, many of whom seem totally bewildered when faced with decisions about their pensions - for many the largest investment they will make in their lives.

By far the most fascinating of the current debates is on individual choice in pension schemes - the do-it-yourself pension as it has been swiftly dubbed. Many people have to join an occupational pension scheme as a condition of employment. In theory this seems fair considering the background to pensions in this country.

Until 20 years ago membership of pension schemes was largely voluntary, with the result that many workers faced the prospect of retirement without a proper pension, often relying on *ex gratia* payments by their employers or, more often, state benefits.

time - with the pleasant prospect of benefits superior to what they would get under the new state scheme.

Just over a month ago it was revealed that the Treasury was examining how the individual could best be allowed to do his or her own thing in pensions. Undoubtedly the main philosophical thrust has come from the Government, and in particular Mrs Thatcher's belief in freedom of choice for the individual. But such a change also meets some of the practical drawbacks of occupational pension schemes.

It overcomes the most serious pitfall for many - the fact that anyone who changes jobs during his working life will be penalised. Most pension

Some hard thinking needed about tax

schemes work to a two-thirds of final salary formula - that being the maximum allowed under the tax rules. In practice only a small percentage of workers in private industry stand to get this generous amount. Most people change jobs several times, and each time, under present practice, they face a pension loss.

If an early leaver controlled his own pension destiny throughout his career there would be no loss as a result of changing jobs. But do-it-yourself pensions are not without pitfalls. No one, least of all a government with an eagle eye on public spending, wants to go back to the days of people ending up reliant on the state in their old age.

Clearly there must be some stiff rules and regulations about making sure the individual puts something away for old age, and that at least some of it (a half is contemplated) goes into approved investments.

There has to be some hard thinking about the tax situation - at the moment employees are

allowed to put up to 15 per cent of their earnings into occupational pension schemes, compared with the 17 per cent "net relevant earnings" permitted the self-employed. For the former, eventual benefits are restricted at present to the two-thirds, for the latter there is no such cut-off point. All these aspects need to be looked at carefully.

On a broader level, the idea is attractive both in those who resent the compulsory nature of occupational pension schemes and those who feel that the way to economic prosperity is to turn everyone into capitalists. Although half the pension contribution might go into "approved" investments the other half might be used for more entrepreneurial ventures - dear to the heart of Mrs Thatcher and her advisers.

It is also thought that individuals could get the scent of the profit motive in their nostrils if they were responsible for their own pensions. This would be good for the whole economy.

That at any rate is the theory - in practice it would bring great problems for the occupational pension schemes, who now subsidize the pensions of their older employees through the contributions of their younger members and early leavers.

While the idea of do-it-yourself pensions might well get bogged down in the mire of practical difficulties the pension funds almost certainly face the prospect of new legislation - probably within the next year.

It is well over a year since Professor Jim Gower at the Department of Trade pointed out that the pensions industry was one of the least regulated sectors of the investment business. The initial response from the National Association of Pension Funds was muted hostility, but this year, with the Government apparently committed to legislation after extensive discussions and the prospect of a Green Paper before the autumn, it will



The change to a state earnings-related pension scheme, introduced in April 1978, heralded a new era in pension provision in the United Kingdom. But despite the plan of ensuring that all employed people would qualify for a pension based on their earnings, instead of just those who were part of a company pension, there remain substantial anomalies and outright faults in the system.

One of the most basic deficiencies is that the scheme does nothing to help pensioners already retired in 1978. In addition, the Civil Service was unable to come up with a way to include the self-employed so they were left out completely, forced to fend for themselves. Another major gap in the scheme is that the state scheme's pension formula only takes account of earnings up to a ceiling of about one and half times national average earnings.

The present limit is £235 a week and earnings above this limit do not qualify for the state pension. The result is that if your earnings are higher than the ceiling, the state pension is a lower percentage of salary. Another problem concerns those who are now nearing retirement age, now 65 for a man and 60 for a woman. The scheme provides an earnings-related pension of 1/80th of earnings for each year of contributions with the best years to count on a revalued basis. But it is only the years since April 1978 that count and although intermediate amounts are payable for those who do not build up their full potential entitlement to additional pension until April 1998, people retiring now still receive little more than the basic pension.

The scheme is based on a contributions test which means paying in for 90 per cent of working life and although periods of working abroad, taking a degree or just dropping out may be included the only allowable gaps - periods when it is considered contributions have been made although they have not actually been paid - are during registered sickness, unemployment or during invalidity or maternity benefit. So it is still possible for employees who pass the test for a lot less than 90 per cent of the working life to get no basic pension at all.

Other problems concern women specifically because although married women may claim a pension on her husband's record if she does not have enough contributions of her own, she must have reached pensionable age and retired when she makes her claim. And while widows, aged over 40 at the time of the husband's death, may claim a pension based on the husband's contributions widowers are only eligible to claim on the wife's record if both parties were at pensionable

RETIREMENT

The snags in the state scheme: what do you get?

age when she died and he has retired anyway.

Divorced women are only able to claim on their former husband's contributions for the years before the marriage ended and on remarriage, any claim on the former husband's contributions ceases.

Another major criticism of the state scheme is the lack of a lump sum payment on retirement or at death if the contributor is still working. This is because the system was designed to be an income replacement scheme when an employee can no longer provide for him or herself and spouse and there is no facility for commuting part of the pension for a lump sum.

This is in contrast with company schemes which provide lump sums on death while working and allow employees to convert part of the pension into a tax free lump sum.

A third component of the state scheme is the graduated pension. This is only for people who were at least 18 and employed between 1961 and 1975 and who earned more than £9 a week during that time. The scheme has now been abandoned but past contributions are still rewarded with a small pension, and although it has been increased in line with rising prices after April 1978, the maximum benefit for a man is under £4 a week and just over £3 for a woman and most people receive considerably less than these amounts.

At the same time as the additional pension scheme was introduced in 1978 employers who already had occupational pension schemes could either join the new state scheme or contract out allowing the occupational scheme to perform the same function as the state's additional pension.

These contracted out employees pay lower National Insurance contributions but the employer's scheme has to be at least as good as the additional scheme provided by the state. The main difference is that the employer is not expected to foot

the difference between the benefits and the increase in prices so the state pays the inflation increases to the pension after retirement. These schemes often provide other benefits such as long term sickness pay and payments on death for example as well as pension for a surviving spouse or dependents.

In spite of all the good intentions behind the erection of the improved state scheme there remains a fundamental problem and that is how will they be paid in 50 years time? As the number of pensioners increases in relation to the number of contributors, the state will have to cope with the increased burden of payment. The Institute of Fiscal Studies has already said that insufficient consideration was given to the long term cost when the state scheme was extended five years ago and even the Chancellor of the Exchequer has admitted that we have locked ourselves into providing benefits without making the economic adjustments necessary to sustain them.

The 1981 report of the Scott committee which looked at the extra value of index-linked public service pensions highlighted some of the problems, and the differences between the private sector provision where inflation eats into the provision and the public sector whose beneficiaries are hoping that index linking will not be abolished.

The other bugbear, inflation, may disappear but it has never been considered safe when making social policy decisions in the recent past to assume that it will.

According to some estimates the present arrangement between the state and occupational pension schemes will mean that total expenditure on pensions will represent 30-35 per cent of total wages and salaries in 50 years time, and this figure could go even higher, compared with about 17 per cent today.

Ultimately the question of provision turns on employment, not just the overall economy, for while the trend continues of expansion down the technology path the result could either be a smaller and diminishing workforce or a return to full employment in new industries. If the latter happens, schemes will have to be changed to cope with the number of people who transfer during their working life from one system to another.

And in the former case a rethink will have to be made to ensure a livelihood for those whose working lives are curtailed, or even shared for a greater part of their careers.

Rosemary Unsworth

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During the last year some of the benefits incorporated in directors' contracts have come under fire, the most notable have been golden handshakes and golden parachute provisions when a board member arranges for substantial compensation in the event of loss of office, as well as facilities for cheap home loans.

But executive pensions, often described as "a nice perk if you can get it", have remained outside the orbit of envy and although the recession's effect on companies in the private sector has contributed to a slowing down in executive pension business, the schemes largely remain attractive and are still expanding.

The growth in the business has been during the last year since controlling directors have been allowed to join a company pension scheme. Before that they had to use provisions designed for the self-employed. And the key to the executive pension business has been its tax efficiency whereby shareholders have been able to take money out of the business as well as the opportunity to give executives better

benefits to retirement than other employees.

Controlling directors may still choose between a personal pension or a self-employed plan or an executive scheme but the benefits are calculated in different ways. Both the employer's contributions (and employee's if he or she contributes) under the executive scheme are fully tax deductible. Thus the employees can get tax relief at the highest rate of income tax, excluding the investment income surcharge. The benefit for the employer means that in the case of a company, tax relief comes out of corporation tax and for an individual at the highest rate of tax again.

Under an executive scheme the contributions are invested in a fund which is tax free on its income from investments or deposits and free from capital gains tax and these allowances are in turn passed on to the beneficiary. The benefits may also be paid either as a tax free cash sum on retirement or as a pension which is regarded as earned income and not subject to investment income surcharge. Also if the employee dies while still working, any lump sum benefit can be paid so it is free of capital transfer tax.

Besides the tax incentive of these schemes changing patterns in management as well as the

EXECUTIVE CHOICE

Going one better than a golden handshake

state pension scheme have brought about these developments. The British Institute of Management reported recently that in 1975 managers had changed jobs on average three times by the time they were between 35 and 39 compared with an average of just once 30 years ago. And it is reckoned that by the time today's managers retire only one in 10 of them will have stayed with a single employer throughout their career.

But despite these changes pension schemes are still heavily biased in favour of the executive who stays with the same company all his working life. On top of this the more mobile manager may end up earning more than his more conservative counterpart and yet retire on a substantially smaller pension because of the inability to transfer his pension as he moves jobs.

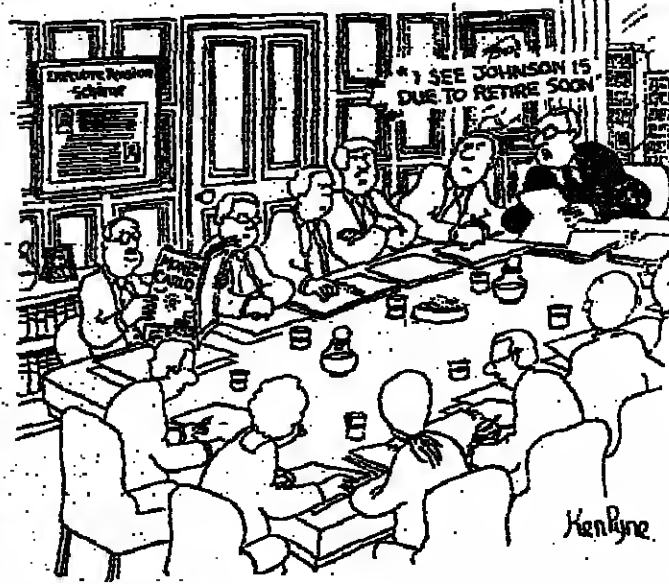
One estimate is that an employee who changes jobs once in his working life receives 60 per cent of the benefits of those who stay with one employer. The Occupational Pensions Board which looked at some of the problems in 1981 has been attacked for "simply nibbling" at the problem with a recommendation that reserved pensions should be improved at the rate of 5 per cent a year. The Inland Revenue's superannou-

ation funds office has been criticised for adhering to the notion that the proper basis for pensions calculations is 1/60 of final salary for each year of service and that no person should have more than two thirds of final salary as a pension.

As a result some schemes are available which an executive can take with him to the next job, allowing him to negotiate the level of contribution to a centralized trust which is Inland Revenue approved and allows the relevant tax concessions.

The executive's own contribution must not exceed 15 per cent of his salary and the rate of interest credited to the fund is at least equal to the Building Society Association's recommended mortgage at the time. But even these few schemes are not so far entirely successful since most companies will not regard any single executive as so vital that they will want to take over an existing pension scheme from another employer.

A more pertinent benefit of executive schemes is the flexibility they offer at retirement, when the individual has a much clearer idea of his or her requirements. A scheme which incorporates a widow's pension may be of little use if the male executive is already widowed at retirement. In other cases where



the scheme is for the small businessman the company may not be able to afford a great deal.

Just as in any other form of investment there are risks with the policies on the market and it is important for the individual to investigate the level of risk tolerated in search of higher returns and the extent that the risks are borne by the policyholder. Several quotations should always be sought and the efficiency of a company may be measured by its ability to handle such queries as well as whether its benefits are realistically tied to its budget.

Controlling directors are among those who have the greatest need for effective tax planning because although there has been a substantial reduction in the higher rate bands following the 1979 budget a 10 per cent salary increase today for a £25,000 a year executive would net about £1,250 if tax is paid at the 50 per cent rate.

Applied as a yearly premium to a pension plan, the retirement benefits could be substantially better than the salary increase.

A further attraction where owners of companies are concerned are loanbacks from the insurance company against the security of the policy or the pension fund itself for business development although these schemes should be only considered most prudently. Personal loans under pension plans to directors, the subject of hot debate recently, are another factor worth considering to executive pension plans.

The problem is whether or not they contravene the Companies Act 1980 and some of the major insurance companies have opposing views of the legislation although a few are now offering them, including Crown Life, Legal & General and Hambro.

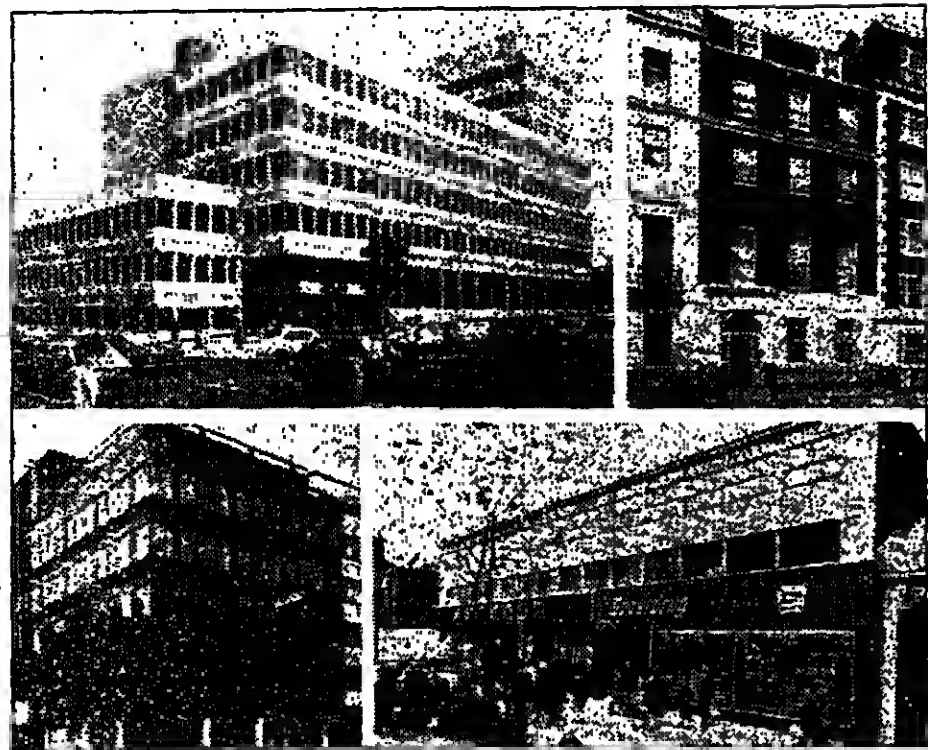
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PERSONAL PENSIONS

What's best for the self-employed

Jane Austen must have had a secret admiration for an insurance salesman. "People always live forever," she wrote in *Sense and Sensibility*, "where there is any annuity to be paid to them... an annuity is a very serious business; it comes over and over every year, and there is no getting rid of it."

Such sentiments are of considerable help in marketing self-employed pension policies, especially since when the annuity is to be paid by an insurance company, the worry is that it will be paid for too short a time.

And in the last two or three years, insurance companies have enjoyed spectacular growth in the market for self-employed pensions - particularly welcome when many company pension funds have become self-administered, and withdrawn their assets from insurance company management.

Another boost was provided in 1981 by big relaxations in Inland Revenue restraints on the level of contributions which could attract tax relief. There is now the opportunity to use unexploited tax reliefs for up to seven previous years in some circumstances. And for older people up to 32.5 per cent of net relevant income will rank for tax relief - provided the policyholder can afford it.

After marketing to the self-employed, some insurers are trying to encourage employees to leave company pension schemes and convert to self-employed policies. It is possible therefore that the extraordinary growth in self-employed pension business will be maintained.

The position of the employed and self-employed reliefs reflects a complete reversal of the advice offered only a few years ago. If you had the chance, membership of a company pension scheme was the best value for money. Usually index-linked, with the employer picking up any unforeseen financial tabs, enjoying economies of scale, and suffering low (if any) commissions, company pension schemes seemed ideal. But even agents have feet of clay; and for many highly mobile executives, and less mobile but redundancy-prone staff, the benefits have proved somewhat of a chimera.

The drawbacks of company schemes have been highlighted now that the range of self-

employed pensions has improved so dramatically. As before, of course, insurance companies offer a wide variety of investment opportunities, including non-profit, with-profit and unit-linked contracts, like any other form of saving.

But the last year has also seen the introduction of complex schemes attempting to provide "self-administered" status to schemes for the self-employed. Difficulties were encountered, but the more balanced schemes today offer such inducements as "loanbacks" (allowing policyholders to borrow back up to 15 times their annual premiums, albeit usually secured on an asset) and even "self-managed" schemes where an insurance company appoints a policyholder to manage his own contributions. Politically these schemes are likely to prove ever more attractive, with their connotations of "self-help" implications of entrepreneurial venture capital investment and compliance with the philosophy that "small is beautiful".

It is reasonable to suppose therefore that genuinely self-administered schemes for the self-employed, avoiding the problems of commission, high expense loadings and Department of Trade investment restrictions on insurance companies will be available soon. It may be that even company pension schemes will follow the route of the big funds, and decide to give members the opportunity to manage their own contributions and those contributions made on their behalf - but it would be a mistake to assume that insurance companies will attract the business lost to pension funds.

The funds will indubitably reconstruct their rules - the contributions could go elsewhere, since monopoly will not be encouraged.

For those who choose conventional insurance policies considerable guidance is needed. First, alternatives should be examined. Partnership annuities, less popular than before, should be seriously considered. They offer not only cash-flow benefits but significant capital transfer and gains tax advantages, and they can now be index-linked. There are friendly society schemes; there is even the chance to set up an occupational (company) pension scheme for a partner who is

continued on page IV

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NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Still showing its mettle

Sixty years ago a group of pension fund managers gathered together in what is now London Transport's head office to inaugurate a new association. That meeting is being celebrated by the pension fund industry this week, as the group grew into the National Association of Pension Funds. Although this was the formal beginning of the association, it had already shown its mettle. Its founder members had been at the forefront of those seeking income tax relief for superannuation funds. The lobby started in 1917, made such progress that by 1921 its requirements were incorporated in the Finance Act of that year.

The pension fund managers' intention was, as it is still, to have an association which could act to protect and develop the pension fund movement. The group at that first formal meeting in January, 1923, were by no means as great in numbers, funds or members as that in Brighton this week. But it was drawn from an impressively wide range of industries. The *Times* pension fund manager was there, as were the representatives of Cunard, and other shipping groups, Bourneville, English Sewing Cotton, Manchester Corporation, and other public service bodies. The leading light was a Mr John Mitchell of the Omnibus, Railway and Equipment Company.

In 1983 the association members manage around £90,000m, and those funds cover around 93 per cent of people in occupational pension



NAPF leaders: Maxwell Lander, president; Maurice Oldfield, chairman; Tom Heyes, chairman-elect.

The association's 2,000 members and associates have to be more tightly organized to cope with the complexity of fiscal and legal requirements that have grown over the years. The association is, for example, the major point of contact in the industry for government bodies wanting information, as well as for its members with the outside world.

There is a full-time secretariat, run by Mr Henry James, the association's director-general. It has a number of committees formed to deal with

such day-to-day necessities as finance and membership, but also education of newcomers into the industry, and international matters. This latter

committee is of growing importance since Britain's membership of the European Economic Community.

Most vital of the committees are investment and the parliamentary committee. The parliamentary committee looks after the extremely important business of liaising with government, and lobbying for the legislation desired by the association members to help them carrying on their business. But it is the investment committee which has been the most prominent in the public eye over the last few years, as it has taken an increasingly active interest in the affairs of financially troubled companies in which the pension funds have invested money.

The case committees, set up under the aegis of the main investment committee, have made more low profile attempts to remedy management problems and inadequacies causing erosion of investors' capital than high profile ones. But the attacks on the present structure of the pension fund industry by the trade union movement, and other interests, are changing this. Challenged with not accepting responsibility, the chief officers of pension funds are increasingly to be found letting it be known by speaking at annual general meetings and to the press that they have not been merely sitting at their computers counting their sums.

An increasing volume of work is being created by the

lobbies for change, and by the jealous eyes cast by government and other groups on that £90,000m. There is also the public debate on the problem of the present lack of manoeuvrability of an employee's pension fund should he leave a company or become redundant.

Mr James says the association plans to build up a research group to cope with the many calls made on it, but this will depend on resources. At the moment much of the burden of research is carried by the larger members.

The purpose of this conference, in Mr James eyes, is to ensure that the association is actively pursuing the aims of its members. "I think it is very important that we keep in touch with our members. I believe that one of the important changes I have made is to turn the conference into a major policy making occasion than just a jolly," he said. But the conference can also help the industry's public image. The difficulties caused by the present rigidities can make the public forget that the association has lobbied for change in favour of the employee—such as the linking of pensions with salary—thinking of it instead as a group of Scrooges who do not want to part with money.

The point that Mr James would most like to come over from the four-day conference is that "the industry's main responsibility is to the welfare of the individual pensioner."

Sally White



Henry James, director-general, National Association of Pension Funds

EARLY LEAVERS

The dream that fades when you change jobs

The threat posed to occupational pension funds by any move to give individual employees freedom of choice may spur the industry to do something about the problem of early leavers. Their plight was highlighted in the Occupational Pension Board's report in June 1981, after prolonged criticism, but little has been done.

The prospect of retiring on two thirds of final salary is an impossible dream for most employees. If you change jobs you lose in two ways. You may have no option than to accept a deferred pension from your old employer, based on your salary when leaving. Few schemes ever uprate this benefit, and by the time you get it inflation will probably have reduced its real value to laughable proportions.

You may have the option of transferring the pension from the first to the new employer, and taking a lump sum into the new job. That will buy you some years' benefit in the new scheme.

But not all pension funds allow you to take money with you. And even if you can transfer you still lose. The two sets of actuaries calculate the transfer payment by a method which means that 10 years of contributions to employer A may entitle you to only five, three or even one year of contributions with employer B. Early leavers find that very hard to accept, and no wonder.

The Government cannot afford to overlook the economic consequences. A highly paid and experienced executive, for instance, is bound to think twice about changing jobs to middle age when his pension prospects will be severely damaged. That will not encourage the job mobility the Government desires.

In pension funds the best returns are for those who stay in the same job all their lives: not, one would have thought, the employee nearest Mrs Thatcher's heart. But despite the OPB report, which recommended a maximum 5 per cent uplift in frozen pensions each year, and some threatening noises from the Government, nothing has been done.

The National Association of Pension Funds, though worried about the cost of all this, recommends its members to make some increases in deferred pensions. It has also been

worried about other claims on the pension purse—the cost of equalizing the retirement age and guaranteeing uprating of pension payments.

The association's softer line on early leavers clearly depends on these other issues being solved first. Deferred pensions and transfer value calculations could possibly form part of forthcoming legislation.

An interesting role might be played by the new low-cost advice and arbitration service for pension fund members—a sort of pensions Ombudsman—which is being eagerly canvassed.

Pension contributions form an increasing part of people's savings, but recent surveys have indicated amazing apathy from employees parting with their money. Faced with a choice between a deferred pension and a transfer, most employees, unless they are wealthy enough to hire a private consultant, would not know what to do.

The unions are becoming better informed, and several companies have a helpful attitude, but no single, authoritative, cheap, convenient source of informed and unbiased advice exists for the man in the street.

For many years the pension funds have held all the cards, the individual had to take what he was offered, unless he was exceptionally lucky. But competition could well change things.

We may still have a long way to go before individual employees can decide against an occupational pension scheme in favour of a do-it-yourself plan, but several insurance companies have been quick to spot the market for job leavers. Employees whose pension funds allow them to transfer now have a third option—to transfer the money not to an employer but to an insurance company which uses the accumulated lump sum to purchase a pension for the employee on retirement.

London & Manchester Assurance led the way in November 1981 with its Transplan. This has been followed by a number of others. These do not by themselves get rid of the problem of low-transfer values, but they do offer a better alternative if you expect to change jobs several times.

MD

Employees' annual contributions

	Staff Schemes	Works Schemes	Combined Schemes	All Schemes
Average annual contribution based on eligible earnings of:				
£4,000	£170.74 % 4.27	£132.25 % 3.31	£165.44 % 4.14	£182.81 % 4.07
£6,000	£267.55 % 4.46	£207.90 % 3.47	£281.52 % 4.36	£256.32 % 4.27
£10,000	£461.02 % 4.81	£362.24 % 3.82	£465.22 % 4.55	£444.43 % 4.44
£14,000	£659.81 % 4.71	£513.70 % 3.87	£686.04 % 4.69	£637.51 % 4.55
Overall average contribution rate	% 4.51	% 3.52	% 4.44	% 4.33

Employers' annual contribution if contributory schema

	Staff Schemes	Works Schemes	Combined Schemes	All Schemes
Average annual contribution based on eligible earnings of:				
£4,000	£505.39 % 12.83	£274.88 % 8.87	£403.82 % 10.09	£424.23 % 10.81
£6,000	£780.83 % 12.68	£482.07 % 7.70	£690.59 % 10.51	£666.43 % 10.94
£10,000	£1,311.12 % 13.11	£729.22 % 7.29	£1,081.88 % 10.82	£1,119.44 % 11.19
£14,000	£1,942.22 % 13.16	£1,081.71 % 7.44	£1,665.14 % 11.16	£1,597.08 % 11.41
Overall average contribution rate	% 12.90	% 7.33	% 10.85	% 11.04

Source: NAPF Survey, 1982

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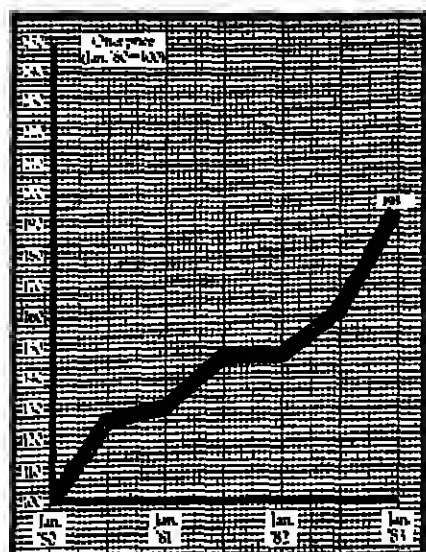
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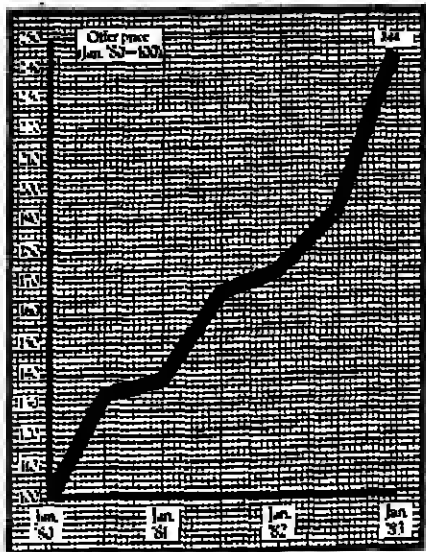


NORWICH PENSIONS

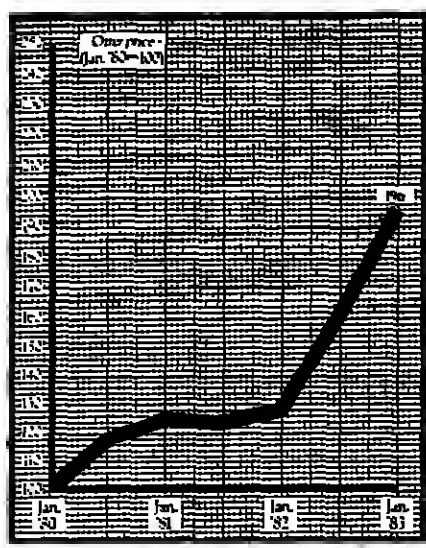
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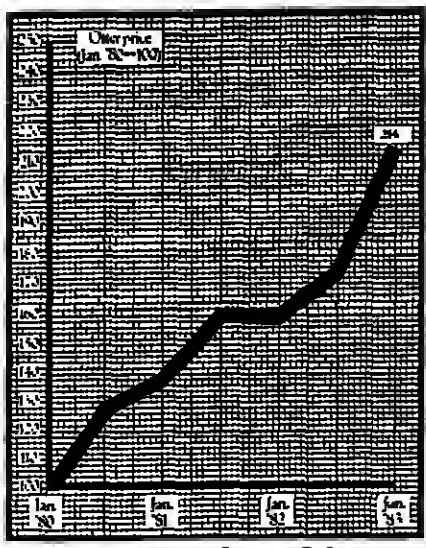
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FUNDS A powerful influence on the economy



Arthur Scargill: active role in pensions

The fund managers who control the assets of Britain's 90,000 or more occupational schemes have never been in such a powerful position to influence the economy. The value of pension fund assets is estimated at more than £70,000m today, against £10,000m a decade ago. Each year the assets of the funds are swollen in two ways: an influx of nearly £7,000m of pension contributions from employers and employees and the return which fund managers achieve on their assets. In 1982 the fund managers were justly pleased with their performance. The return on UK equities as measured by the FT Actuaries All-Share Index was more than 28 per cent, while the return on long-dated gilt edged securities reached 30 per cent. The average return on assets invested overseas was also estimated to be in the region of 30 per cent, leaving investment in property as the only major class of business which produced a return below the prevailing rate of inflation. However, despite this apparent success in handling their clients' funds the fund managers have come under increasing pressure to reduce their overseas investments and channel money principally into British industry. Even under a Conservative administration the managers have been taken to one side and urged to use some of the financial muscle at their command to help reconstruct the battered balance sheets of Britain's hard pressed manufacturing companies. With the prospect of an election in sight fund managers are also casting a nervous eye in the direction of the Labour Party leadership, which plans to use institutional funds as the core plank of its policy to rejuvenate British industry. Traditionally the pension funds have maintained a consistent balance between investments in four key areas: property, UK equities, UK fixed interest securities, and overseas equities. In 1982 this meant that about 43 per cent of assets were invested in UK equities, 20 per cent in fixed interest securities, with the balance divided between property and overseas investments. The one major change in emphasis during this period has been an increasing amount of investment in overseas equities

which was brought about by the relaxation of exchange controls in 1979. The threat of a Labour election victory and the reintroduction of exchange controls has increased the amount of interest taken in overseas investments recently as fund managers channel money out of the UK which they fear might be locked into the home economy if Labour wins power. However the main threat stems from the joint TUC/Labour Party initiative to redirect some of the huge assets of the pension funds towards projects aimed at fostering investment in industry and increasing employment. The TUC/Labour Party liaison committee produced a document which developed the idea further with the proposal that pension fund assets should be directed towards investment priorities previously detailed by a new Department of Economic and Industrial Planning. However, TUC criticism of the pension fund movement goes much further and attacks the poor standards of accountability in the movement, while blaming the funds; for many of the problems caused by the lack of investment in British industry. Although the debate will remain largely academic while the Conservatives are in power there are signs that the pension fund movement is taking note of shifting opinion about its role in economic and City life. The most dramatic example of this has been seen at the National Coal Board Pension Fund. Since Mr Arthur Scargill succeeded Mr Joe Gormley

(now Lord Gormley) as president of the National Union of Mineworkers, the union leadership has taken a much more active role in influencing the actions of the pension fund managers. In his first year as trustee of the fund Mr Scargill refused to accept its business plan. In particular he refused to allow the fund to go ahead with proposed investments in overseas securities and property. Questions were also raised about investments in activities such as the oil industry, which competed with coal production. The changing mood has also led to occasional arm twisting by the Bank of England in an attempt to arrange finance for manufacturing companies in trouble. As a consequence, fund managers were involved in arranging a capital reconstruction which allowed Johnson & Firth Brown, the Sheffield engineering group, to become involved in setting up Sheffield Forgemasters, a joint venture company with the British Steel Corporation. The institutions were involved again when Sir Francis Tombs was appointed chairman of Turner & Newall, the troubled asbestos group, last year. The fund managers have also demonstrated their sense of social responsibility by urging directors of Marks & Spencer to give details of cheap housing rental arranged for executives. Institutional pressure was also brought to bear when Associated Communications Corporation and Carrington Viyella, the textiles company, looked set to pay record golden handshakes to outgoing chief executives. Previously fund managers have argued that they lacked the knowledge of industry necessary to involve themselves more closely with day-to-day decisions. Managers have also argued that their primary duty is to achieve the highest possible return on the asset which they control on behalf of fund members. If the pressure to change the emphasis of their investment and to become more involved in the running of companies continues, then the result will almost certainly be a demand from managers for a change in the rules which govern their activities.

Andrew Cornelius

What's best for the self employed

Rate of return, tax efficiency, and security of investment are not the only matters to be considered. Other possible advantages may include relief on the cash-flow of a partnership, the encouragement of automatic retirement and advancement of partners, financial economy, and benefits for dependants. The overriding criteria should however be simplicity. It is almost certain that the tax and fiscal regime surrounding the self-employed will be very different from today in 10 years' time and flexibility to change the contractual terms of a policy is important. In summary, therefore, advantages of self-employed schemes include: no effect on benefits by changing job, free choice of investment (within limits), improved returns on contributions, and possibly higher benefits at the end of the day, no limits on benefits (other than by the amount of pension that the contributions can buy) and freedom of choice of scheme. There are, however, disadvantages: limits on contributions (compared with the limits on benefits of company schemes), uncertainty of benefits (compared with guaranteed benefits of many company schemes (and government or public sector schemes), time spent choosing policies, and uncertainty of Revenue practice. The distinction which has emerged since 1956 in the method of provision between the self-employed, nonetheless, seems to be becoming blurred. It is likely that the present Revenue controls on benefits will continue. But it is also likely that the number of employed people seeking pensions under the taxation provisions of the self-employed will increase.

Robin Ellison

Author of Pensions for Partners published by Oyez Longman.
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STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 589.8 down 2.3 FT Gilt: 82.00 up 0.27 FT All Shares: 433.22 down 3.53

CURRENCIES

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INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates: Base rates 10 3 month interbank 10 1/8

PRICE CHANGES

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TODAY

Interims: Anglo Scottish Inv: Barton Transport, T Cowie, North Midland Construction, Royal Bank of Scotland, Finales: Advance Services, Ganer Booth.

Japanese top steel production

Nippon Steel last year continued as the top steel producer at 28.3 million tons against a previous 29.6 million tons, in the 1st issued by the International Iron and Steel Institute in Brussels.

OVERSUBSCRIBED: Applications for shares in the advertising agency, Boase Masini Pollitt have been oversubscribed.

APOLOGY: The Midland Bank yesterday apologised for an administrative error which implied that a £16m business with 700 workers was in the hands of the receiver.

MARKS PROFIT: Marks and Spencer, the high street retailing group, yesterday announced an 8 per cent increase in pre-tax profits for the year to the end of March from £222.1m to £239.3m.

MORE FAILURES: Trade Indemnity, the credit insurance company, reports that business failures notified by its policyholders in April 1, 1983, rose by 10 per cent compared with April 1982.

ZANUSSI TALKS: NV Philips Lamps began talks last week with the financially troubled Zanussi electrical company at the request of the Italian Government.

Interest hopes boost Wall St

New York (AP-Dow Jones) - Stock prices moved slightly higher in active trading yesterday on investor hopes for lower interest rates.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 1.65 to 2,209.66. The NYSE index rose 0.27 to 93.41 and the price of an average share increased by 10 cents.

Advances led declines 885-416 among the 1,684 issues. In the first hour the volume was about 24,940 million shares, compared with 22,740 million the previous day.

Sears Roebuck was the volume leader, up 1/4 to 40 1/2. Exxon which may close its refinery in Bordeaux, was up 1/2 to 28 1/2.

Southern Pacific was up 2 1/2 to 62 1/2. Union Pacific was up 1/4 to 36 1/2. Burlington Northern was up 23/8 to 80.

General Motors at 69 1/2 was up 1/2. Motorola at 106 1/4 up 1/2. Honeywell at 115 1/4 was up 3/4.

Howe turns down TUC growth plea

A bid by the TUC and to a milder extent the Confederation of British Industry to persuade Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor, to opt for more growth internationally petered out at yesterday's National Economic Development Council meeting.

Both had argued that Sir Geoffrey should go to the Williamsburg summit prepared to push for more expansion to tackle the problems of unemployment and manufacturing investment.

But Sir Geoffrey said that while he fully understood the TUC and CBI plea for the industrialized economies to give a concerted expansion lead it was "perverse to ask for expansion rather than the maintenance of policies that led to success."

The Chancellor made in a discussion paper at the meeting that he was against any action which would fuel inflation.

The CBI had argued, for instance, expansion and like the TUC for a concerted effort by the leading industrialized countries to achieve this.

A 5 per cent growth rate in Britain would be double that at which the United Kingdom economy is expected by the CBI to grow.

The TUC, arguing that an economy could afford to opt out of a recovery programme, clearly would like more expansion, especially as a means of tackling unemployment.

It was recognised that a key problem was getting the US trade deficit under control.

£600m bid 'an opportunist attempt to buy company on the cheap' Tilling predicts 113pc profits rise in aggressive defence against BTR

By Sandy McLachlan

Thomas Tilling is forecasting a 113 per cent increase in pretax profits to £95m for the present year as one of the main planks in its defence against the £600m takeover bid from BTR.

Mr F Black, Tilling's finance director, said tonight, "we are in a boom year. We don't think we are alone in this."

On the basis of its forecasts, Tilling dismisses the BTR offer on the grounds that it "completely undervalues" Tilling shares. It claims that acceptance would result in inadequate

THOMAS TILLING PRETAX PROFIT RECORD Table with columns for Year and Profit (£m) from 1973 to 1983 forecast.

capital value, substantial loss of income, dilution of attributable earnings and dilution of asset-backing.

In an attack on BTR that is bound to provoke a sharp dismissal, Tilling claims that over the last four years BTR's sales and profits growth "have actually declined in real terms, despite several acquisitions."

Tilling, advised by merchant bankers S. G. Warburg, totally rejects that there is a reasonable case for BTR's takeover bid.

It is expected that a decision will be taken today by Lord Cockfield, Secretary of State for Trade, as to whether to refer the proposed acquisition of Serck by BTR.



Meaney: Tilling undervalued BTR/Tilling bid to the Commission.

Another attack by Tilling concerns employees' interests. It claims that it has "consistently given a high priority to the maintenance and improvement

of good human relations" with its employees and that "the reaction of group employees to the BTR bid has been one of concern."

Tilling also says that it believes that "it would be very easy for BTR, by selling a few of our companies, to recoup in cash a very substantial part of the value of its bid."

To back its record forecast, Tilling says that "it is now widely accepted that the improvement in certain sectors in the UK, which became apparent during the last quarter of 1982, is being sustained and will spread into other sectors during 1983."

As evidence of the recovery, it plots leading indicators of both the British and US economies drawn from official figures, and showing a marked recovery.

Investors' notebook, page 16

Pound again buoyed by election talk

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

Speculation about an early general election and optimism on the economic front continued to support the pound yesterday. Sterling opened higher after rising in the Far East and moved ahead further until profit taking clipped back its gains.

Although the Deutsche mark and French franc, its trade weighted value still improved by 0.1 yesterday to 85.1.

The foreign exchange markets believe that the Conservative Government is likely to win a June election and the outcome of today's local elections are expected to be a key factor in determining whether the Government will go to the polls next month.

There is also speculation that the announcement of a Joint election could clear the way for a further half-point cut in bank base rates and some period money market rates were a little easier yesterday.

Publication of the April official reserves figures yesterday showing an underlying rise of £1166m suggest that the Bank of England may have intervened modestly to smooth sterling's sharp recovery in recent weeks.

However, given the extent of sterling's rally during April, the underlying rise in reserves is relatively insignificant.

Including all government transactions and valuation changes, the rise in reserves in April was \$319 in \$17,700m compared with \$17,300m at the end of March.

In the United States speculation grew yesterday that US interest rates would drop significantly in the weeks ahead after the move of a small New York bank to lower its prime

lending rates and the recent decline in the growth of the money supply. Baily Morris reports from Washington.

UMB Bank of New York cut its prime lending rate charged to its best business customers to 10.25 per cent from 10.5 per cent after the lead last month of Southwest Bank of St. Louis, another small institution.

Although no big banks followed the move toward the lower base rate, Wall Street analysts predicted that rates generally would drop because of the growing belief that the US central bank soon will cut the discount rates charged financial institutions.

A securities dealer said: "The psychology of the market now is dominated by the idea that money supply growth is coming under control and the Federal Reserve Board will eventually cut the discount rate."

Also fueling hopes of generally lower rates was the auction on Tuesday of US Treasury notes at which rates fell to a three-year low of 8.50 per cent.

For several weeks, analysts have been predicting that the US central bank would lower the discount rate which now stands at 8.5 per cent in response to continuing goods news on both falling inflation and controlling the growth of money supply.

Fitch sells lossmakers

By Andrew Cornelius

Mr Geoffrey Hankins, chief executive of Fitch Lovell, the feed group, has continued his drastic realignment of the company's trading activities by announcing the sale of the troubled poultry business and butchers shops.

The move, which adds £6.55m to Fitch Lovell's coffers, will be seen by Linford Holdings as a further attempt to frustrate its ambitions to take over Fitch Lovell. Last week Fitch Lovell agreed the sale of its 106-strong Keymarkets chain to Safeway for 34.5m.

The move angered Mr. Alec Munn, Chairman of Linford, whose 87m takeover bid for Fitch has been investigated by the Monopolies and Merger Commission.

A decision by Lord Cockfield, the Trade Secretary, on the Linford bid is expected by the end of next week, but is virtually academic unless the Office of Fair Trading steps in before hand to block the series of disposals which have been agreed by Mr Hankins since he took over as chief executive of Fitch last October.

After announcing the sale of the lossmaking poultry division to Favor Parker for 2.5m and the chain of 104 West Gunner butchers shops to Union International, which operates the Dewhurst butchers shops, for 4.05m, Mr Hankins said that he had completed the first phase of his new strategy for the Fitch Lovell group.

"We are now out of retailing and agriculture," he said. "We can now concentrate on the businesses which we are best at: specialist foods, frozen food distribution and food manufacturing."

In the short term Fitch will use the £40m it raises from the disposal to wipe out borrowings which stand at about £10m. But Mr Hankins indicates that he has ambitious plans to add to its new core business. He is currently negotiating the acquisition of a frozen food distribution company with pretax profits in the region of £500,000 a year, on an £8m turnover, and is planning another three or four acquisitions.

Shareholders will be asked to approve the disposal at an extraordinary meeting on May 20. In a letter posted to shareholders yesterday Mr Hankins explained that it took the decision to sell the Key Markets stores to Safeway because it was in the best interests of shareholders.

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City Comment A private eye on the NCB

Public attitudes towards the future of state industry have probably shifted more in the past four years than on any other election issue of 1979.

It is no surprise that privatization is high on Mrs Thatcher's next election manifesto. But outside the ideological zones, the principle is now scarcely controversial.

It is a measure of the success of the experiments so far that state industry chairman are almost queuing up for the privilege of leaving the public sector. As British Airways shows most startlingly, that prospect has become a strong incentive for efficiency.

Few sets of employees are more enthusiastic than those at National Freight. But even a casual glance at the list so far shows that the privatization process has yet to strike at the heartland of the public sector, the great state monopoly utilities.

Britoil's flotation, much the biggest so far, was a cash-raising exercise rather than one of great commercial significance. The testing time will come if and when a second Thatcher administration gets to grips with British Telecom.

The controversial question now centres on how to convert public enterprises into private rather than whether it should be done at all. Public share issues have alternately been under or over priced. Since the biggest was overpriced, this has done little harm to state finance, but even if Telecom is floated in a conventional way, it is going to be such a big lump of shares for the stock market to digest.

The time has come for more imagination. At one end of the spectrum there is a case for building on the National Freight case. If ministers developed worker/management ownership, Mrs Thatcher need not see even privatization of the National Coal Board as "a bit ambitious".

Workers at British Telecom have seized on the price to be paid in terms of universal public service of introducing competition into monopoly utilities. But ironically, government itself cavils at losing the benefit of monopoly profit at British Gas.

The Treasury is enjoying a hidden gas tax that would surface if British Gas was privatized. So the gas corporation is dismembered and demoralized instead of earning its rightful place in the private sector.

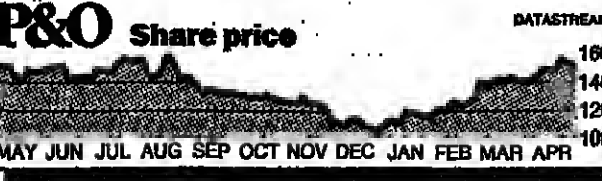
P&O cuts 22 more ships

By Our Financial Staff

P & O, one of the world's most famous shipping lines, has continued to lessen its dependence on the shipping business. Since the beginning of 1982, the group, which also has construction, haulage and oil interests, has sold 22 ships in the last 1960's.

Lord Inchcape, the chairman, said yesterday that about 50 per cent of P & O's turnover and assets come from the shipping business compared with more than 80 per cent at the beginning of 1982. He said that 90 per cent of the group's assets would remain in the shipping business over the next few years at least, largely because of the planned introduction of a new £100m cruise liner, "Royal Princess" late in 1984.

However, he added that he is now negotiating the possible sale of P & O Australia, which operates 15 offshore vessels and made profits of £1.9m in 1982.



P&O Share price

Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company Year to 31.12.82 Pretax profit £23.5m (£40.9m) Started earnings 14p (21p) Turnover deferred stock £1,213m (£1,047m) Net final dividend 6p making 10p (same) Share price 149p, down 1p. Yield 9.5% Dividend payable 1.7.83

The publication of P&O's 1982 results provide some indication of the problems the group has experienced from its traditional dependence on ship-

Hunt group investors may have own liquidator

By Margaret Drummond

A group of investors owned by £3m by Exchange Securities & Commodities, the investment management group at the centre of the mystery over the missing financier, Mr Keith Hunt, are planning to appoint their own liquidator in place of accountants Thompson McKinnock who are acting as special managers.

The winding up petition for six of Mr Hunt's companies is to be heard on June 13 and creditors will meet within a fortnight of that.

One substantial investor said: "We now believe there is a chance of getting a reasonable amount of our money. But we are worried that the liquidators fees may have to be paid out of investors' money."

The Manchester-based investors, most of whom knew Mr Hunt personally, have asked local solicitor Mr David Pine of Alexander Tatham & Co to form a creditors' group. Mr Pine said: "We are getting phone calls from investors all the time. Of the 2,000 clients in Exchange Securities we think that between one and two dozen account for half the fund."

"We believe there is around £4m cash and a further £2.5m in the form of properties and paintings. Trade creditors only amount to £500,000. It is possible that investors will have priority in liquidation if it can be shown that the companies through which cash was passed held the money in a trustee capacity. It is not known if Exchange Securities had separate clients accounting.

Davenport forecasts 29 pc rise

By Our Financial Staff

The board of Davenports has emphatically recommended to shareholders that they reject the takeover bid by Wolverhampton & Dudley, a neighbouring Midlands brewer.

Mr J G Swanson, chairman of Davenports, repeated the forecast that his group will make profits of £2.1m in the current trading year, a 29 per cent improvement on 1982. A dividend of 8.4p a share, an increase of 80 per cent on last year is also promised.

But he said that claims by the bidder that a merger would benefit both groups, merely serve to illustrate the very limited understanding it has for the Davenports business.

Luxembourg investment puts Tring Hall in red

By Our Financial Staff

Tring Hall, the city investment house responsible for a large number of company flotations on the Unlisted Securities Market, made a substantial loss in the 12 months to the end of March, and it is grappling with liquidity crisis, according to its chairman.

It is letter to shareholders, Mr Robin Eve, who joined the board and took over as chairman this year, said that the "significant loss" and the liquidity problems were largely a result of Tring Hall's 12.6 per cent investment in a Luxembourg-based company, International Communications & Technology.

It made the investment in the hope that ICT had invented a new kind of telephone, but in the absence of a marketable product, ICT shares have slumped.

CWS hits at councils

By Our Commercial Editor

Despite cooperative retail societies being probably the country's biggest contributors to local rates, local authorities had discriminated against retail cooperatives when considering planning permission for new shopping developments, said Mr Dennis Landau, chief executive of the Co-operatives Wholesale Society (CWS) yesterday.

Nevertheless, the cooperatives, which already operate 55 supermarkets, have nearly 30 more under construction with the last due for completion by mid-1985.

CWS, which supplies goods and services to retail societies but which is also becoming more involved in retail operations, had sales in 1982 of £1,980m, an increase of 4.4 per cent over 1981.

Survey shows top salaries rising by 13.9 pc

By Our Financial Staff

Director's salaries rose by an average of 13.9 per cent last year, about twice the level of inflation according to a study of pay and attitudes of more than 2,600 company directors, published yesterday.

The study, by the world's largest firm of executive headhunters, Kern Ferry International, shows executive directors are paid an average salary of £40,825 a year, against £35,850 when a similar study was conducted a year ago.

Of those companies surveyed, only 7.2 per cent had failed to give any pay rise last year, while those directors in companies with a turnover of £50m a year received average rises of 21.3 per cent to £56,400 a year.

Directors' pay averages £40,825

By Our Financial Staff

When asked whether government policies had been beneficial to them over the past year, opinion was almost equally divided between those who had benefited and those who had not.

However, the organizations of the study were not surprised to find that more than 80 per cent of those directors surveyed were not seeking any change of government.

More than half of the companies surveyed indicated that they were optimistic about the future, with 40 per cent expressing caution and only 3.7 per cent taking a pessimistic view.

Inn on the Park

Hamilton Place, Park Lane, London W1A 1AZ



After all is said and done

When the affairs of business are over and the last resolution has been made, then is the time to reflect upon a time well spent at the Inn on the Park.

It goes without saying that the Inn on the Park is one of London's more elegant meeting places. As a business arena, however, this internationally celebrated hotel at the corner of Hyde Park boasts facilities second to none.

The superbly appointed suites lend themselves to any function, whatever the matter in hand, whatever the numbers involved.

Our famous Ballroom has been entirely redesigned - even more of an elegant showpiece now - and any gathering may be held there in a style that is nothing short of magnificent.

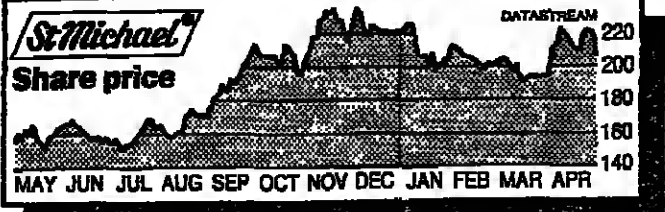
Whilst on the subject of magnificence, there's the superb cuisine. And the impeccable service. Our business clientele can expect only the very highest standards - what else from a hotel whose restaurants are acknowledged to be the finest in London?

It must be said that a business meeting at the Inn on the Park will never be a run of the mill affair. And if it must be said, say it at the Inn on the Park. To find out more, simply call our Banqueting Manager, David Petrie on 01-499 0888.

INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK edited by Sandy McLachlan

M & S growth fails to buoy shares

Marks and Spencer Year to 31.3.83 Pretax profit, £239.3m (£222.1m). Stated earnings, 10.3p (9.2p). Turnover, £2,505.5m (£2,196.7m). Net dividend, 3.25p making 5.1p (4.6p). Share price 203p down 13p Yield 3.4%.



If the market appeared to be disappointed with the yearly profit figures of Marks and Spencers, dozen of British retailing, it was because a hoped-for scrip issue failed to materialize. It was this, not the figures that caused the shares to drop 13p. Pretax profits - up nearly 8 per cent at £239.3m were in the middle of forecasts.

cent of which was attributable to the increase in staff. Employees were given a 9 per cent pay rise last year. The group no doubt expects higher volume sales this year to compensate for the increase in the cost base.

shots still in its locker it is one that could backfire on it quite dramatically. Asset values are only of any real value in a break-up situation - and that is what Tilling says it is not going to do, and accuses BTR of intending to do: at least to a degree.

Its own rate of retail price inflation is 0.5 per cent below official national averages. Volume sales rose by 11 per cent in the second half, compared with 10 per cent in the first.

If Lord Cockfield does not oblige Tilling, BTR is going to have to come up with some compelling answer to the Tilling document. It cannot win at the current bid price, with the 180p cash alternative valuing Tilling on a prospective p/e of 8.3.

Thomas Tilling

In spite of the fact that the Thomas Tilling camp still thinks it has more cards up its sleeve, the rejection document against BTR's bid seems to be a once and for all broadside. Even S. G. Warhurs surely cannot come up with much more than superb profit and earnings forecasts, dismissal of industrial logic, comprehensive knocking of BTR, an almost positive plea to Lord Cockfield to make a reference to the Monopolies Commission, and employee interests.

Discount houses

Size has become increasingly important in the discount market over recent years and yesterday's results from Gerrard & National and Smith St Aubyn illustrate why.

True, Tilling has not revalued its assets, but if that is one of

the smaller houses which had a calamitous year in the gilt market in 1981-82, has turned in a creditable performance. It has reported disclosed profits of £1.42m struck after a hefty

transfer to secret reserves which were wiped out the previous year, when it disclosed a £2.75m loss.

By contrast Gerrard & National, one of the sector leaders - along with Union Discount, has turned in a bright performance with profits more than trebled from £4.31m to £14.2m.

Shareholders are receiving a 27 per cent rise in dividends and one-for-one scrip issue is also proposed. The year-end

Smith St Aubyn Year to 5.4.83 After tax profit £1.42m (£2.75m loss) Net final dividend 2p, making 3.5p (4.5p) Share price 45p, down 3p. Yield 11.1% Dividend payable 18.6.83

Gerrard & National Year to 5.4.83 After tax profit £14.2m (£4.31m) Net final dividend 14p, making 20p (15.75p) Share price 382p, down 2p. Yield 7.3% Dividend payable June 1983

balance sheet shows 50 per cent rise to £2.35bn and disclosed shareholders' funds are up from £3.2m to £4.5m.

Meanwhile, Smith St Aubyn's balance sheet is up a more modest 15 per cent to £470m and disclosed shareholders' funds ahead from £8.6m to £9.1m. However, the final dividend, omitted at the previous year-end, has been partially restored.

International Income Property

Investors are being invited to take their chance in the boom and bust US real estate market by an Australian property development subsidiary run by an expatriate Dutchman Mr Gerard Dusseldorp through a 2m share offering of International Income Property Inc. Half the shares will be placed with institutions and the remainder offered for sale at 587p per share.

IIP is a spin-off from Lead Lease, the Australian-based property development group. The 8.6 per cent yield should prove attractive to private investors as standard United Kingdom property shares yield an average 4 to 5 per cent. Under the present laws both here and in the US, income is taxed at 15 per cent in the US and a further 15 per cent is levied on the net amount in Britain. There are also capital gains advantages.

P&O, Britain's largest shipping company, which yesterday reported 18 per cent decline in pretax profits to £33.5m for 1982, has started 1983 on an equally gloomy note. Mr Oliver Brooks, managing director, said that the group's cruise, liquefied gas containers and the ferries had all started the year badly. Shareholders will have to wait for the second half for any signs of improvement from the traditionally stronger summer season for cruises and ferries and also the Bovis construction business. But the market expected as much and the shares fell just 1p to 149p.

Banks to lend Turkey £126m

Ankara (Reuters) - A group of 12 foreign banks will shortly extend a \$200m (£126m) medium term loan to Turkey, central bank officials said yesterday.

Morgan Guaranty Trust of New York, has been coordinating the loan. The central bank officials said the bank group includes Citibank, Chase Manhattan Bank, Barclays Bank International, National Bank of Kuwait and Bank of Tokyo. Turkey - with total debt at about \$206m - is forecasting a current account balance of payments deficit of \$575m this year.

Brighter outlook at T&N

Sir Francis Tombs, chairman of Turner and Newall, said at yesterday's annual meeting that results for the first half of 1983 would show a substantial improvement over 1982, but would include the cost of remedial measures.



Sir Francis Tombs improved results

He expected the second half to show a further improvement. The group was now trading well within its borrowing facilities. The company's present net bank borrowings for the United Kingdom and overseas were £46m and £28m respectively. Total group borrowings were £92m, a reduction of £57m since the year end. This produced a group gearing figure of 34 per cent (35 per cent at December 31, 1982).

These reductions had arisen, said Sir Francis, principally as a result of disposals but also by operational cash generation during a period when cash outflow was seasonally strong. Since completing the report,

other sites to increase productivity. In addition, stocks were being reduced temporarily at the expense of manufacturing efficiency, and pricing policies were being examined.

Overseas the board was studying unsatisfactory trading results in France, Spain, and Italy. It would close the operation in Korea at a substantial loss, for which a provision was made last year.

Domestic business activity showed little sign of permanent improvement although the pound's competitive exchange rate had improved exports in several areas. In the US there were signs of economic improvement which the board hoped would quickly be seen in Britain.

The chairman expected a further fall in borrowings, accompanied by higher manufacturing efficiency, particularly in the British companies.

COMMODITIES

Table of commodity prices including LONDON METAL EXCHANGE, SOYABEAN MEAL, INTERNATIONAL COMMODITY PRICES, and LONDON INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL FUTURES.



CHARTERHOUSE The Charterhouse Group plc 1982

Mr Nigel Mobbs reports

The Group 1982 was a year of consolidation and further progress following the structural changes and rationalisation which occurred in 1980 and 1981. The company continued to develop as an investment and banking group making new investments and several realisations. The bank, Charterhouse Japhet, masterminded the acquisition of F W Woolworth by a consortium of investment institutions, thereby much enhancing its reputation.

Once again Charterhouse benefited from the spread of its investments, both internationally and by sector.

Results Group profit before taxation increased to £22.9 million while profit after taxation increased by 38 per cent to £15.1 million. The improvement in the taxation charge from 50 per cent in 1981 to 29 per cent resulted from the continuing ability to make use of available allowances and the elimination in part of the very high impost on oil activities.

Dividend The Directors recommend a final dividend of 3.25 pence per ordinary share which, when aggregated with the interim payment, amounts to 5.175 pence for the year.

Table with 2 columns: Results in brief, £ million. Rows include Capital employed, Shareholders' funds, Profit before taxation, Profit after taxation, Retained profit, Earnings per share, and Dividends per share.

Banking The profit of the bank, Charterhouse Japhet, increased encouragingly despite the enormous pressures on the international banking system and the inevitable need for provisions against both United Kingdom and foreign debt. The enlarged capital base of the bank provides splendid opportunities but profits are inevitably affected by falling interest rates and the relative prosperity of customers.

Future success will depend upon building on the undoubted internal strengths which exist and considerable progress is being made in the development of new product areas. Of particular interest at present is cable and satellite television and the interactive communication possibilities stemming from this challenging new development.

Investments Development capital activities again made a substantial contribution, resulting mainly from the continuing success of operations in the United States.

The harsh economic climate has, perhaps surprisingly, produced many favourable investment opportunities for the careful investor. £44 million was invested in 28 companies despite considerably increased competition especially in the area of development capital. Substantial investments were made in Coloroll, a successful wallcoverings manufacturer, and in P J Burke, civil engineering contractors. Promising new investments were added to our American portfolio and there was further investment in both France and Canada.

The major divestment of the year was the reduction of our 48.4 per cent stake in Charterhouse Petroleum to 19.5 per cent.

The Future Falling interest rates and lower inflation rates, coupled with signs of increasing consumer demand and improving business confidence, seem to indicate the beginnings of economic recovery. The Charterhouse Business Forecast predicts a significant improvement in prospects for 1983 and 1984.

Against this background I am hopeful that the group's range of interests will continue to prosper and that I will be reporting favourably upon the group's performance in 1983.

Nigel Mobbs Chairman

Copies of the Annual Report of The Charterhouse Group plc are available from: Group Communications Department, 25 Milk Street, London EC2V 8JE. Telephone 01-606 7070.

Advertisement for S. G. Warburg & Co. Ltd. offering 2,000,000 shares of International Income Property Inc. at 587p per share.

Handwritten Arabic text at the bottom of the page.

APPOINTMENTS

Barclays post for bank chief

Mr T N Risk, Governor of the Bank of Scotland, has been additionally appointed a director of Barclays Bank and Mr A. E. Harrow has been made a director of Barclays Bank International.

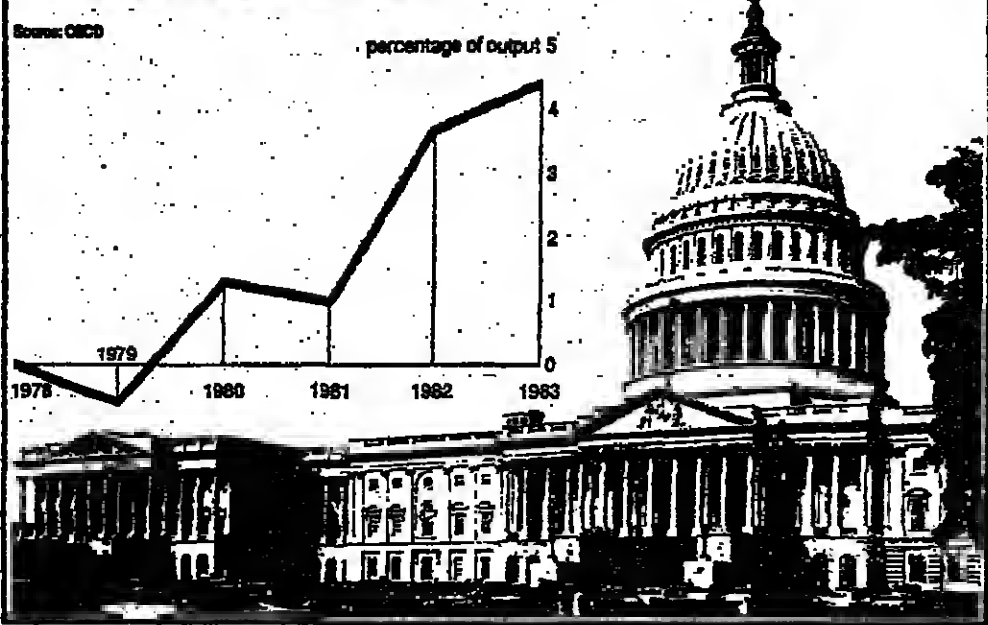
Bailey Morris, in Washington, examines the President's debate with Congress

As the United States Senate embarks this week on what is bound to be yet another long and turbulent debate on President Reagan's budget, it is important to remember what this unfinished economic saga is all about.

The single most important issue generating worldwide concern over Mr Reagan's budget is not the massive military build-up, or the steep cuts in programmes for the poor, or the proposed tax cuts, or even the huge size of the projected federal deficits.

Consider the latest chapter in this unfolding drama. Senate Republicans, having soundly rejected Mr Reagan's 1984 budget priorities, are now fighting among themselves on a compromise version which they are under great pressure to complete.

THE RISING US BUDGET DEFICIT



Why Reagan's budget saga is so crucial for the rest of us

It is by no means certain that a growing number of disgruntled senators will pass this version of the Republican budget when it comes to a vote on the floor.

High interest rates could abort the fledgling US recovery

A White House veto would return all players to square one

Meanwhile, the rest of the world is watching to see if Congress and the Administration are finally going to agree on reasonable fiscal policy that will sustain a long-term recovery and bring interest rates down.

Herr Karl Otto Pohl, president of the West German central bank, said recently, for example, that the key to the currency problems caused by the high dollar is lower interest rates which will only occur if federal budget deficits are reduced.

Whether or not Mr Domenici will be able to pull it off in face-saving fashion without damaging his own political prospects is yet to be seen.

Financial notebook Shooting down the big bank JRs

Our sober clearing bankers are at present giving more than a passing imitation of the television soap opera Dallas. The cause of the trouble lies in the bankers' leaked report of proposals on a point of sale system. As the system may be central to the way we make payments in the future, it is worth examining in a bit more detail.

Table with columns for 1982-83, 1983-84, and 1984-85. Rows include various financial metrics and company names.

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COMPANY NEWS
IN BRIEF

● Hampton Gold Mining has acquired the business and assets of Temple Farm Coal for £3.25m cash. Temple Farm is a substantial Scottish licensed coal-mining business which operates some 10 miles south of Edinburgh. The business will now trade under the name Binkbonny Coal, as a subsidiary of Hampton.

● London United Investments reports that Lazard Bros has underwritten and sub-underwritten is now in progress for a one-for-three rights issue of 2.94m shares of 20p each at 175p a share to raise about £4.8m net of expenses. The proceeds will be applied in subscribing for new shares in LUI's fully owned offshoot, Wajbrook Insurance.

Warford Investments
Year to 25.12.82.
Pretax profit, £3.89m (£3.31m).
Stated earnings 21.79p (23.8p).
Turnover, £24.48m (£24.05m).
Net dividend, 12.5p (12p).
Share price, 340p, down 33p. Yield (gross): 5.25.

John Folkes Helpo
Year to 1.12.82.
Pretax profit, £1m (£742,000).
Stated earnings, 1.43p (loss, 2.0p).
Turnover, £85.41m (£83.01m).
Net dividend, 1.25p (1.25p).
Share price, 18p down 2½. Yield (gross): 8.92.

Wemyss Investment Trust
Half-year to 31.3.83.
Pretax profit, £382,000 (£347,000).
Stated earnings, 9.5p (9.5p).
Net dividend, 7.0p (7.0p).

Murdin and Peacock
Year to 31.12.82.
Pretax profit, £11.32m (£10.08m).
Stated earnings 11.4p (11.0p).
Turnover, £462.5m (£403.4m).
Net dividend, 3.12p (2.7p).
Share price, 174p, down 2p. Yield (gross): 2.56.
Dividend payable on 8.7.83.

John Mowlem
Year to 31.12.82.
Pretax profit, £8.5m (£7.8m).
Stated earnings, 28.3p (34.5p).
Turnover, £233m (£271m).
Net dividend, 15.0p (13.7p).
Share price, 246p, up 2p. Yield (gross): 8.71.
Dividend payable on 1.7.83.

Central & Shearwood
Year to 31.12.82.
Pretax profit, £21,000 (£154,000 restated).
Stated earnings, (loss), 1.04p (loss, 0.64p).
Turnover, £94.04m (£94.79m).
Net dividend, 0.3p (1.05p).
Share price, 11½ p, down ½ p. Yield (gross): 3.72.

Millets Leisure Shops
Year to 31.1.83.
Pretax profit, £867,000 (£915,000).
Stated earnings, 11.9p (10.7p).
Turnover, £18.34m (£17.74m).
Net dividend, 6.95p (6.95p).
Share price, 130p, up 5p. Yield (gross): 7.63.
Dividend payable on 21.7.83.

Sotheby's decision creates more merger confusion

By Derek Harris
Commercial Editor

The Government's policy over mergers has been unclear for some years but since Lord Cockfield has been Secretary of State for Trade the confusion has mounted.

The latest surprise is Lord Cockfield's decision to ignore the recommendation of Sir George Barrie, Director-General of Fair Trading, that the bid by the American-based GFI Knoll International for Sotheby's, the fine art auctioneers, should not be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.



Cockfield: change of policy could be on way.

Lord Cockfield justifies his decision by saying that the bid raises an issue of public interest because of London's position as the centre of the fine art market and Sotheby's position in that market. Certainly, it's not a clear monopoly problem.

His action could ruffle American feathers as much the rebuffing more than a year ago, by the Monopolies Commission of a bid for Davy International from Enserch Corporation, the Texas-based oil production and services group. That happened at a time when UK companies were buying up American interests in swaths.

But the Trade Department in December had already made history in a surprising way by overturning the Monopolies Commission recommendation over the proposed takeover by

Sharp fall in world borrowing

Paris (AP - Dow Jones) New borrowing operations on the international capital markets fell steeply by \$5.1 bn (£3.22bn) in April to \$11.8 bn according to the figures released yesterday by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

April's total was also well below the \$13.5 bn raised in February.

The OECD commented that the drop in borrowing activity in April was more apparent than real. However, it noted that the February figure had been swollen by a \$4.4 bn international bank loan to Brazil while the March total included a \$5 bn credit to Mexico.

If these "rather special" financings are excluded from the monthly totals, new international bank lending in the form of medium-term syndicated eurocredits has had a relatively strong upward trend compared with the depressed level of January.

OECD member-countries and non-oil developing countries increased their borrowing considerably on the capital markets in April.

The 24 OECD nations raised a total of \$8.5bn in April, up from \$8bn in March and \$6.9bn in February.

Sweden was the biggest OECD borrower in April, accounting for \$1.7bn of the overall amount raised. Next was Japan with \$1.2bn and France and the US both with \$1.1bn.

Christie's - the market improves

FIVE YEAR RECORD	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Auction sales	98,922	125,712	175,479*	185,721*	184,721*
Revenue	20,103	24,848	30,973	33,947	35,076
Profit before tax	5,629	6,046	7,035	5,276	3,705
Earnings attributable to shareholders	2,853	2,974	3,002	2,768	1,630
Dividends	928	1,229	1,433	1,433	1,433
Retained profits	1,925	1,745	1,569	1,335	197
Shareholders funds	8,679	12,360	14,828	17,437	19,125
	p	p	p	p	p
Earnings per share	14.32	14.53	15.22	13.83	7.96
Dividends per share	4.50	6.00	7.00	7.00	7.00
Net assets per share	42.39	60.37	72.42	85.16	95.15

*Includes buyers' premium where applicable.

The past year has been a challenging one for your Company. We have concentrated our efforts on increasing our market share and controlling our operating costs without impairing our service.

World-wide the autumn season was 21 per cent higher than the comparable period of the previous year and an all time record for Christie's.

The strong upturn in sales was reflected in the profit and loss account where the pre-tax profit for the second six months of the year was more than double that achieved in the first half. Moreover, it was the first improvement in a six month period for three years.

I am glad to say that the improvement seen in the autumn season has continued into the opening months of the current year. The signs are that the Art Market has turned the corner.

We enter our second decade as a public company in good heart. We believe that we have the correct structure and world representation to benefit from a sustained upturn in the marketplace.

Christies International plc

For a copy of the 1982 Report and Accounts send this coupon.

Name _____

Address _____

To: The Secretary, Christies International plc, 8 King Street, St. James's, London SW1Y 6QT.

THF in \$1.2bn US hotel development

From Christopher Thomas
New York

Trusthouse Forte, the biggest hotel and catering group in the world, is taking a stake in a shared investment in US hotel development totalling \$1.2bn (£759m) by the end of next year.

The investment, which THF will share with pension funds

and insurance groups, will take it into a dominant position in the hotel industry in America, where it already has 550 travel lodges and seven hotels.

Fourteen hotels are planned or already under construction in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Chicago, Houston, Phoenix, Orlando, Newport Beach, Miami, New Orleans, Stamford

in Connecticut and Provo in Utah.

Further expansion plans are in hand which will make THF among the largest hotel chains in America.

The group is concentrating on America in the belief that Europe is saturated with hotels. Mr Michael Flaxman, the New York-based director of development for THF Inc, said America offered the greatest

potential in the world for hotel development.

"The group's aggressive drive in the US comes at a time when industry analysts predict that hotel construction will drop this year for the first time in a decade, partly as a result of the reduction in tourism brought about by the strong dollar.

The amount of unoccupied hotel space in the US rose to an unhealthy 35 per cent last year, against 30 per cent in 1980.

Granville & Co Limited.

(Formerly M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited)

27/28 Lovat Lane, London EC3R 9EB Telephone 01-621 1212

The Over-the-Counter Market

1982/83	1981/82	Change	%	P/R	Full			
High	Low	Change	%	Actual	Year			
142	120	Asst Brit Ind Ord	134	-	6.4	4.8	7.8	10.2
158	117	Asst Brit Ind CULS	152	-	10.0	6.6	-	-
74	57	Aisprung Group	62nd	-	6.1	9.8	17.7	17.7
46	29	Armitage & Rhodes	29	-	4.3	14.8	3.5	5.7
326	197	Bardon Hill	326	+1	11.4	3.5	13.7	17.2
145	100	CCCL 110% Conv Pref	145	-	15.7	10.8	-	-
270	210	Cinco Group	210	-	17.6	6.4	-	-
86	50	Deborah Services	50	-	6.0	12.0	3.3	8.0
97½	77	Frank Horsell	96	-1½	-	-	8.0	8.6
96	25½	Frank Horsell Pt-Ord 87	94½	-1½	8.7	9.2	10.5	11.3
83	61	Frederick Parker	62	-	7.1	11.5	3.9	6.2
85	34	George Blair	34	-	7.3	9.5	3.9	12.3
100	74	Ind Proc Casings	77	-	7.3	9.5	9.9	12.4
168	100	Isis Conv Pref	168	+2	15.7	9.3	-	-
147	94	Jackson Group	147	+1	7.5	5.1	4.5	9.4
220	111	James Burrough	220	+4	9.6	4.4	16.1	17.9
260	148	Robert Jenkins	150	-	20.0	13.3	1.6	23.8
85	54	Scruttons SA	69	-	5.7	8.3	9.0	10.8
167	112	Tender & Curiale	114	-	11.4	10.0	5.1	8.8
29	21	Unilock Holdings	26	-	0.46	1.8	-	-
85	64	Walter Alexander	68	+1	6.4	9.4	4.9	7.0
270	214	W. S. Yeates	265	-	17.1	6.5	4.1	8.5

Prices now available on Prestel, page 48146

THE TIMES 1000

1982/1983

The World's Top Companies

The top 1000 UK companies with all statistical details plus addresses.

The 500 leading European companies and American, Japanese, Irish, Canadian, Hong Kong companies, etc.

£15.00

Available from booksellers or direct at £16.25 including postage from

TIMES BOOKS LTD 15 Golden Square, London, W.1.

PIONEER MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the members of this COMPANY will be held at the BLUNDELSANDS HOTEL, THE SERPENTINE, LIVERPOOL L29 6TN, on FRIDAY, 27th MAY 1983 at 11.00 a.m. for the purpose of transacting the following business:-

- To receive the Statement of Accounts and Report of the Directors for the year ended 31st December 1982.
- To re-elect Directors
 - Professor G Clayton M.A. who retires by rotation
 - Mr A R Barnes and Mr C A Youngman
- To re-appoint Arthur Young McClelland Moores & Co as Auditors to the Company and to authorise the Directors to determine their remuneration.

DATED 4th May 1983.

By Order of the Board
B BLEAZARD
Secretary

REGISTERED AND HEAD OFFICE:
Pioneer House
16 Crosby Road North
Waterloo
Liverpool
L20 1JY

NOTE:
1. A member entitled to attend and vote may appoint a proxy to attend and vote for him. A proxy must be a member of the Company.

This advertisement is published by Morgan Grenfell & Co. Limited on behalf of BTR plc.

ACTION!

The BTR share offer represents a massive premium of 68 per cent and the opportunity to participate in BTR - a group committed to profit growth.

The offer is exceptionally generous and fully reflects any 1983 "recovery" that Tilling could responsibly forecast.

How far would the Tilling shares fall if BTR lapses its offer?

207p

Share bid value*

123p

Pre-bid value*

?

Future Tilling value

BTR - Tilling

There's no comparison.

BTR

ACCEPT THE BTR BID NOW

*Based on the middle market quotation derived from The Stock Exchange Daily Official List of BTR ordinary shares for 27th April, 1983 and of Tilling ordinary shares for 31st March, 1983.

The directors of BTR plc (including those who have delegated detailed supervision of this advertisement) have taken all reasonable care to ensure that the facts stated and opinions expressed herein are fair and accurate and each of the directors accepts responsibility accordingly.

Tootal Group

Earnings per share up from 3.2p to 5.3p.

UK trading profits nearly doubled.

Overseas profits hit by recession but substantial cost savings initiated.

Borrowings reduced by over £9m and gearing down from 62% to 48%.

PRELIMINARY RESULTS

YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 1983

	1982/83	1981/82
	£ million	£ million
Sales to outside customers	481.2	418.9
Trading profit before interest	23.3	22.2
Interest	9.4	11.9
Share of profit of associated companies	13.0	10.3
Profit before taxation	1.0	4.5
Taxation	14.9	14.8
Profit after taxation	3.4	6.9
Minority interests	11.5	7.9
Profit before extraordinary items	1.9	2.1
Extraordinary items	3.6	5.8
Profit/(loss) attributable to Tootal Group plc	(1.9)	(26.4)
	7.7	(20.6)
Dividends per Ordinary Share	2.35p	2.35p

The Report & Accounts will be posted to shareholders on 27 May 1983.

The Annual General Meeting will be held at the City Art Gallery, Motley Street, Manchester on 22 June 1983.

The above results are extracted from the full Group accounts for the year ended 31 January 1983 which carry an unqualified audit report and will be filed with the Registrar of Companies.

TOOTAL GROUP plc
Tootal House, 19/21 Spring Gardens, Manchester, M60 2TL.

BELL'S SCOTCH WHISKY BELL'S

British & Commonwealth has taken another step to rid itself of the dowdy steamship image which formed the basis of the group last century when its fleet sailed under the Clan Line banner.

Yesterday the group announced it had bought a further 70,000 shares in the merchant banker Leopold Joseph, taking its total stake to 410,000 shares, or 15.6 per cent of the equity.

This has been seen in the city as another positive move by the group towards the hi-tech image of the 1980s, which has been behind the spectacular share price rise in less than six months from 296p to close 10p higher at 810p last night.

Much of the improvement stems from its 18 per cent stake in money broker Exco International, and 25 per cent stake in Telerate, the financial information service. Recently shares in Telerate made their debut on Wall Street valuing the entire group at more than £500m.

Other interests include controlling stakes in Bristol Helicopter Group and the Gartmore Unit Trust empire.

Edinburgh Investment Trust is thought to have sold B & C

High Tech shipping line

ACCOUNT DAY: Dealings began, April 25; Dealings end, May 8; Contango Day, May 8; Settlement Day, May 16.

latest stake in Leopold Joseph at about the 210p. Confirmation is expected shortly. Meanwhile, the market will be keeping a close eye on Joseph, unchanged at 189p, to see if B & C decided to tighten its grip.

Elsewhere, the rest of the equity market spent a lacklustre day with the FT 100 closing at 2,368.9, down 10.5 points from 2,379.4.

TV-AM may still be short of viewers, but Mr Timothy Aiken's financial services group, Aiken Hume, still has its admirers. Yesterday the shares rose 2p to 195p, as a large line of 600,000 shares was snapped up at about the 191 level.

day with jobs calling as they bid for stock by marking prices lower. The FT Index fluctuated in narrow limits closing at its lowest point at the day 2.3 down at 689.8.

Leading equities recovered from a nervous start helped by opening prices on Wall Street. But falls were still noted in

Beecham 3p to 388p, Boots to 247, Distillers 4p to 248p and Grand Metropolitan 5p to 338p. ICI also encountered nervous sellers losing 10p to 456p reflecting the decision to raise £100m on the Eurobond market with a new convertible bond.

Glits put up a better performance with early demanding exhausting remaining supplies of the "tap" Treasury 10 1/2 per cent 1989 at £25 1/2. About £300m of "tap" was thought to have been sold compared with an initial amount of £1,000m.

The rest of the gilt market continued to make the most out of a stronger pound which closed 0.2 cents higher at \$1.5805 on the foreign exchange. Gains of nearly 5p were reported in longs where there was just a hint of another cut in bank base rates expected shortly.

On the bid front, The Monopolies and mergers Commission took the market by surprise by referring the £60m

from General Felt Industries for Sotheby Parke Bernet.

GFI with 30 per cent of the shares was thought to be home and dry despite talk of a possible counter bid from another private American company.

The effect on Sotheby's was obvious with the price tumbling.

Heavy selling has greeted this weeks full year figures from Fosco Minsep, the metallurgical specialist chemicals group, where pretax profits slumped from £2.4m to £1.4m. Yesterday the shares dipped 9p to 142p as a line of 230,000 shares were dumped on the market.

60p to 465p as the first closing date for the offer expired. Investors may now have to endure a six month wait before hearing the Commission's verdict. Grand Metropolitan, the

held to brewing group, had called off talks with Pleasurama over several of its London casinos. This had the effect of depressing the price of Trident TV, down 8 1/2p at 91p, and currently being bid for by Pleasurama. Market men believe it makes the possibility of a reference to the Commission a higher at 311p.

Tarmac yesterday confirmed that it had sold its entire stake in Candover Resources as the hopes of merging the two groups' North Sea interests now seemed remote. The 3 million shares (10.3 per cent of the equity) were sold in yesterday's Times. But dealers are confident that Tarmac had now focused its attention on London Brick, up 2p to 162, and may have bought just under 5 per cent of the shares.

Bifurcated Engineering's recent rights issue has proved a flop. Of the 771,000 shares issued only 432,000 were taken up, amounting to 55.95 per cent of the issue. The bulk of the remaining shares have been taken up by the underwriters.

Table with columns: 1982/83 High, Low, Stock Name, Price, Change, Dividend, Yield, P/E. Includes sections for BRITISH FUNDS, SHORTS, and MEDICALS.

Table with columns: 1982/83 High, Low, Company Name, Price, Change, Dividend, Yield, P/E. Includes sections for COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN, LOCAL AUTHORITIES, and DOLLAR STOCKS.

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Table with columns: 1982/83 High, Low, Company Name, Price, Change, Dividend, Yield, P/E. Includes sections for SHIPPING, MINES, and OIL.

Table with columns: 1982/83 High, Low, Company Name, Price, Change, Dividend, Yield, P/E. Includes sections for FINANCIAL TRUSTS, INSURANCE, INVESTMENT TRUSTS, and PROPERTY.

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Handwritten text: مکتبہ اسلامی

CRICKET: SIX CENTURIES AS THE GAME GETS ON TOP OF THE WEATHER

Sussex make a lemming-like rush into the new season

By Alan Ross

HOVE: Sussex have scored 115 for nine against Nottinghamshire.

Sussex have made some bad starts to the season but few...

It would scarcely be possible to have two opening bowlers...

On a morning that began damp and grew progressively...

Parker scored four through the slips, and then was leg-

Towards lunch, Pigott, with the trusty Phillipson to support...

Cooper into the generous breast of Hemmings at mid-on. If this...

Sussex First Innings table with player names and scores.

The afternoon was a washout, thick drizzle, and freezing cold...

Phillipson batted with much composure. Pigott reached his 50...

McEwan, Fletcher set like cement

By Peter Marson

CARDIFF: Glamorgan, with all first innings wickets in hand, are 291 runs behind Essex.

Centuries by McEwan and Fletcher, who had made 131 out...

Assuming command, Fletcher reached his pinhead turning...

So far so good. But, as Fletcher and McEwan came in...

These two hiccoughs apart, McEwan looked to be in very good order...

It was 10 minutes to three before Lloyd, with Ericson's help...

It was 10 minutes to three before Lloyd, with Ericson's help...



Second-century man: Stovold's bat punched hearty holes in the Surrey bowling

When Surrey needed Stovold like a prefrontal lobotomy

By Alan Gibson

BRISTOL: Surrey, with nine first-innings wickets in hand, are 305 runs behind Gloucestershire.

As it was, Childs had Butcher stumped before the close. It had been a good day's work for Gloucestershire...

Surrey did not bowl very well. There were too many no-balls, especially by Thomas, from the Orphanage end...

Wiley's form in evidence

By Richard Streeton

NORTHAMPTON: Northamptonshire have scored 270 for eight wickets against Hampshire.

Wiley's first innings was played amid the unfortunate echoes of the season's first domestic ceremony...

Wiley and Larkins were both witnesses on behalf of Northamptonshire's former head groundsman...

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Caution slow to drain away

By John Woodcock

LORDS: Middlesex have scored 10 for no wicket against Lancashire.

On another infinitely frustrating day Lancashire bowled six overs...

While the main ground was deserted yesterday morning Middlesex were...

To the distant observer it seemed about to be playing, and when the reason for this was discovered...

As it was, Childs had Butcher stumped before the close. It had been a good day's work for Gloucestershire...

Gloucestershire First Innings table with player names and scores.

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Drift of defeat sucks in Miss Koppen for a sad final bow

From Richard Eaton, Copenhagen

The great career of Lene Koppen, world champion in 1977, All-England champion in 1979 and 1980...

Yesterday in front of her home crowd at the Brøndby Hallen in Copenhagen it came to a sad and stunningly sudden end to the second round of the Newport Championships...

Miss Koppen led 7-1 in the final game before an irritating bout of shuttle testing at 7-5 disrupted the rhythm of the match...

It was the first seeding upset and within an hour there was another. Zheng Lili, the Chinese seeded fourth, was the vanquished player...

Both surprises should have improved English chances. Karen Beckman, the national champion, splendidly beat the Japanese number one Sumiko Kitahara...

Koppen's conqueror when her All-England career came to an end was a South Korean, Sundai Hwang and yesterday in another surprise...

Mrs Podger overran the capable Swede Maria Bengtsson and England's four women remained encouragingly in the last sixteen...

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Miss Flom tames Duke's hazards

By John Hennessy, Golf Correspondent

The American challenge, although small in number, still produced the leader on the first day...

Miss Flom was followed on 73 by a Scot, Catherine Pantan, and a Spaniard, Maria Figueras-Dotti...

But it is in adverse conditions that class most tells and it is a telling matter of record that Miss Flom only once dropped a shot to par...

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Gower in charge

By Peter Marson

LEICESTER: Derbyshire, with all first innings wickets in hand, are 295 runs behind Leicestershire.

Two hours of splendid stroke play from David Gower towards maximum batting points against Derbyshire on a placid pitch...

Derbyshire's decision to field first appeared justified when in only the fourth over Cobb attempted to fend down a lifting delivery from Newman...

Leicestershire First Innings table with player names and scores.

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Somerset improve

By Peter Marson

TAUNTON: Somerset have scored 325 for seven against Worcestershire.

Peter Roebuck and Jeremy Lloyd laid the foundation for the Somerset score of 325 for seven in 101 overs at Taunton yesterday...

In dull conditions, on a dry pitch but very wet outfield, Roebuck hit a six and nine fours in 47 overs...

Somerset First Innings table with player names and scores.

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Daniel recalled for World Cup

By Peter Marson

The West Indies party for the Prudential World Cup next month includes 10 of the players who were to their victorious side in 1979...

Four of them were also in the team which won the inaugural Commonwealth Cup in 1975. Greenidge, Richards, Roberts and the captain, Lloyd...

The new comers are Logie (batman), Davis (fast bowler) and Dujon (wicket-keeper), all of whom played to the series against India, which ended on Tuesday...

West Indies are favourites to win the competition again, but Lloyd was cautious. "There is no team that can be considered a walkover," he said...

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Yorkshire plan on agenda

By Peter Marson

The Test and County Cricket Board will discuss Yorkshire's proposal for a County Championship split into two divisions at their working party meeting...

The ICC's spokesman, Peter Lynch, said the proposal of a split into two divisions has been discussed before. Yorkshire being very keen on it...

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Four denial

By Peter Marson

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Hookes rewarded

By Peter Marson

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No play yesterday

By Peter Marson

HEADINGLEY: Leicestershire v Yorkshire - no play.

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Top seed's struggle

By Peter Marson

Perugia (AP) - The top-seed, Virginia Ruffo, of Romania, overcame a persistent Barbara Rossi, of Italy...

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Mikkola the one to catch

By Peter Marson

MOTOR RALLYING: Hannu Mikkola, of Finland, takes a formidable lead into the next round of the world championship...

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IN BRIEF

By Peter Marson

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TENNIS

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CYCLING

By Peter Marson

Valladolid (Agencies) - Julian Gorrochategui, of Spain, regained the overall lead in the Tour of Spain race from his compatriot Alvaro Pino after the second leg of the fifteenth stage yesterday.

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Opinion of clubs divided over revised TV offer

By Stuart Jones Football Correspondent The Cafe Royal is the setting for the next, but possibly not the final, episode in the dispute over televising football.



Clay: "League's most important meeting ever"

The Football Associations regulations permit shirt logos that measure 32 sq in, the television representations insist that size should be halved. The chairman, in return, want to reduce the number of matches covered by the two channels each weekend to four, but they may allow some of them to be screened live.

Television are offering a sum of £5.4m over two years and another £1m to retain overseas rights. Once agreement has been reached, they would also recognize a sponsorship deal, estimated to be worth £3.2m over three years, that is expected to be signed by the Football League.

The television companies believe that with video contracts and additional ground advertising for the cameras, the deal is worth £12m to the game. Jonathan Martin, the BBC's head of sport, said: "This is a very large sum of money, especially when you consider the appeal of football on

television over the last few years has been diminishing." Ernie Clay, as the chairman of a second division club, Fulham, holds one of the 53 votes. He feels the meeting is "the most important since the League started", but fears the final decision will be far from unanimous. "The block vote is immovable and the need for a 75 per cent majority is disgusting."

Aberdeen priority is now for Real

Aberdeen have conceded defeat in the tightest Scottish premier division title race for years and turned their attentions towards next week's European Cup Winners' Cup final in Goudburg. A goalless draw with Hibernian at Easter Road on Tuesday has left Aberdeen with only faint hopes in the championship chase.

Alex Ferguson, the Aberdeen manager, watched his side struggle as the effects of a long, hard season began to take their toll and said: "The league's over for us. It's very disappointing but I just can't see our other challengers finishing now."

With two games remaining, Aberdeen must second with Celtic on 51 points, one behind Dundee United, but Ferguson now believes the time has come to begin preparations for next week's match with Real Madrid, who have just finished runners-up in the Spanish League to Athletic Bilbao.

Aberdeen face the bottom club, Kilmarnock, tonight in their last Aberdeen game before travelling to Sweden. Ferguson said: "The final now comes ahead of everything else." It is because he wants to leave the players at their sharpest. Aberdeen have been rested. Neil Simpson against Hibernian, and will omit Mark McCoc and Neal Cooper against Kilmarnock.

The timing could not have been better for Aberdeen as they gained their first away win in eight months by 2-1 at Sheriffway on Tuesday, to give some credibility to their hopes of escaping relegation to the third division.

With games in hand over most of their rivals in distress, the Lancashire club could yet haul themselves out of the relegation mire at Crystal Palace on May 17 which may be crucial to both clubs. Burnley secured victory at Gay Meadow with two goals in five minutes early in a 2-0 win over Luton Town and Donovon Shurebury, for whom it was the first defeat in nine games, replied with a header from Bates.

The other strugglers, Carlisle United and Cambridge United probably earned themselves a reprieve by taking a point apiece in a 2-2 draw.

McEnroe attacked by Lendl

From a Special Correspondent Forest Hills

Ivan Lendl, of Czechoslovakia, the world No. 1, has made clear that he is no longer prepared to put up with the kind of behaviour which John McEnroe displayed when beating him in the World Championship Tennis (WCT) final in Dallas on Sunday.

After thinking the matter over for 48 hours, the usually reticent Lendl spoke about the matter at a press conference after his 6-0 win over Brent Frow, of South Africa, in the Tournament of Champions here on Tuesday evening.

Lendl said, with the cool detachment of a winner who has weighed up his plans of attack: "I am fed up with the double standards that took place in the match. No matter what was happening he was always questioning my play. I was not ready to put up with it any longer. If officials are not going to do anything then I will take matters into my hands."

Asked to explain further, he said: "I think I am going to show you." He then hinted that every time he had a close call, he would not be prepared to let it go and that he, too, would like to go to the officials.

Grand National is £2m short of the target

By Michael Seely

Negotiations between the Jockey Club and Bill Davies, the owner of Aintree Race Course are now at a deadlock. Yesterday the Jockey Club offered £3m for the site and the right to run the Grand National. The National Appeal Fund has raised £2m and the remaining £1m would be borrowed from the Horserace Betting Levy Board. Mr Davies has rejected this offer.

Mr Davies, the chairman of the Walton Group, indicated that he would accept £3m if a further £1m is forthcoming within a 12-month period. The Jockey Club said they did not think there was a likelihood of their raising the remaining capital, and that they were unable to improve on their offer. The new deadline is May 16.

The Jockey Club have hinted all along that they were unlikely to be able to raise the necessary £4m. And in fact, the main fund raising exercise, which has involved the names of John Dunlop and Pat Rohan, acting entirely on their own initiative. These two trainers raised nearly £150,000 for the fund. Dunlop organized a raffle with the two-year-old, Satch, as the prize and Rohan ran a raffle in Yorkshire for cash prizes.

Rohan said yesterday: "Generosity appears to have no limit if there is a prize, however slight, at the end of it. You'd be surprised at the thousands of letters I have received from people sending money and saying how delighted they were to be helping the appeal. My scheme, and Dunlop's much more imaginative and successful one, seem to have worked wonders."

Jockeys appear in film stunt

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent

Three National Hunt jockeys, Gerry Mann, John Burke and Gerry Gracy are substituting as stunt men, for the filming of the life story of the former jockey Bob Champion. Champion recovered from cancer to comeback and win the 1981 Grand National on Aldanini. Christopher Goulding writes.

The filming starts on May 16 at Liverpool racecourse, where there will be nearly 70 horses involved in the film, in which John Hurt plays the leading role. The ironic fact about the film, is that the budget exceeds £4m. The racecourse can be bought for that amount.

At Salisbury yesterday, Kim Bracey's good start to the season continued again when Stoney the Baron won the Salisbury Stakes. The Norfolk Stakes or the Windsor Castle Stakes at Royal Ascot, whichever looks the easier, is now on the agenda. "Bracey remarked, "Caroline was better, three-quarters of a length into second place, and looked a trifle unlucky. Arguably, he made much of his own trouble by starting slowly, but to make matters worse he was stopped in his run - in a field on only five, he was not on paper, and on performance, he is crying out for six furlongs."

Happily his trainer, Henry Candy did not have to wait long for compensation. Half an hour later he watched Rose-Lover win the Warrminster Stakes quite decisively, to become the eleventh two-year-old to score for a first season since this year.

The Noble Player finds the going easier than most

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent

The gallops at Lambourn become so desolate after all the recent rain that Barry Hills and Paul Cole, two of the leading trainers there, have resorted to transporting horses to other tracks. Hills has taken the Noble Player to the Mecca-Dante Stakes there next week. If the race is lost, he will be switched to Longchamps on the following Sunday for the Prix Lupin.

The Noble Player ran one of his best races at Longchamps last autumn when he finished third to Saint Orien in the Grand Critérium. He ran nine times as a two-year-old, so he is much more experienced than most of his contemporaries, and that will count a lot at Epsom come Derby Day.

His stable companion, Nibabu, who was runner-up to Goodby, Shelley in the Fred Darling Stakes at Newbury last month, is earmarked for the Musidora Stakes at York, but again Hills has a contingency plan which would also mean a trip to France. Viban could run in the Prix St Alary.

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No hope of final reprieve admits the players' man

Reforming the FA disciplinary system could mean FA Cup Final hedges than it solves Gordon Taylor, the professional Footballers Association secretary conceded yesterday. He emerged from a meeting on the subject at the Football Association yesterday holding out no hope for Manchester United's Remi Moses and Steve Foster of Brighton, who are both suspended from this year's Wembley final.



Missing out: Moses (left) and Foster

Taylor also admitted that his suggestion that the FA adopt a UEFA style of disciplinary code for the cup competitions did not meet with unanimous approval from the representatives of the English and Welsh Football Associations, the football league and managers and Secretaries Association.

Taylor added: "It was also pointed out that Brighton have played teams who have been missing through suspension. Some people regarded this as being balanced out by Foster's suspension in the final. Another criticism was that lower division clubs would possibly be under a handicap when the first division clubs came fresh into the competition in the later stages."

McEnroe attacked by Lendl

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POOL PROMOTERS ASSOCIATION CERTIFIED PPA DIVIDENDS FOR MATCHES PLAYED APRIL 30

ZETTERS POOLS LONDON E.C.1 £500000 FREE TREBLE CHANGE POOL 4 DRAWS... £3.20

LITTLEWOODS POOLS LIVERPOOL ANOTHER BONANZA WEEK £1.8 MILLION TO WINNERS EVERYWHERE

YACHTING Britain David the first laugh From David Miller, New York De Navary was at pains to point out to a press conference of US journalists yesterday that he wishes the tone of the race this summer to be sporting - following guidelines set down by his Royal Burmah syndicate.

SWIMMING Russians send their strong man Moscow, (AFP) - The Double world champion and triple world record holder Vladimir Salnikov of the Soviet Union, widely regarded as the best long-distance swimmer of all time, will take part in the three-way international with Britain and Canada in Leeds on Sunday.

FOOTBALL KICK-OFF 7.30 unless stated FA Youth Cup Final, second round

CRICKET County championship (11.0 to 6.30) BRISTOL Gloucestershire v Surrey

OTHER SPORT GOLF: WPGA Ford Classic (at Windsor)

ICE HOCKEY NATIONAL ASSOCIATION Play-off (best of seven) Los Angeles (W) 4-3 Chicago Blackhawks (L) 3-1

Salisbury Draw advantage: high numbers best. 1.30 WINCANTON STAKES (Div II: 3-y-o maidens: £2,137: 1m 2f) (14 runners)

Salisbury results 2.0 2/3 WILTSHIRE HANDICAP (1:52.7: 1m) Goodwin c by Star Appeal (Goodwin) 1:52.7: 1m

Salisbury selections By Michael Phillips 1.30 Harbour Bride, 2.0 Mervin a Secret, 2.30 El Mansour, 3.0 Netsack

Cheltenham results 4.15 1. Wild Cat (20-1), 2. Horn Of Plenty (10-1), 3. My Major (20-1), 29. Mr Midshipman Special (12-1), 60. Roly Poly (20-1)

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McBride's pride: shooting a cagey glance over a septet of man-eaters



Those unsmiling Irish eyes of McBride suggest that there could be a lion, if not a kiwi, in the path of MacNeill, Irwin, Campbell, Fitzgerald, Keirnan, O'Driscoll and Ringland

Lions and their handlers must pull together on safari

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

The seventh team to represent Britain and Ireland in New Zealand - of the tenth, depending on whether you count the various teams who played there before the First World War - leave Gatwick today looking like a cardsharp swinging through the saloon doors and then stopping to think whether he has the required number of aces up his sleeve.

The party selected for the Lions has the look of solidarity which the manager, Bill McBride, and the coach, Jim Telfer, were expected to insist upon. There are also gambles in critical positions which no one, not even the "streetwise" McBride, can predict for certain will come off. The first is Maurice Colclough, the England lock forward, who has not played since leaving the field against France in January with a badly damaged knee.

Colclough, fully fit, is among the best in the world but he will have to recover match fitness on a tour, which contains only six games before the first international on June 4. He is bappy with the hard work he has put in but admits that another fortnight would have made him happier. At 18st 3lb he is a man of considerable physical strength and the management, putting his straight into the first game against Wanganui to see how he performs.

The second gamble is the Leicester centre, Clive Woodward, who has been picked on the supposition that he can rediscover the elusive running which made him a feared player for England and the Lions in 1980 and 1981. Woodward has shown no indication of such form this season but it would be pointless to take him without feeling that he would be a genuine contender for an international place.

The third gamble is the one that applies to all touring parties: whether the management team find themselves pulling together and pulling the players along in the same direction. There are outstanding examples over the past 10 years of this not happening, the 1972-73 All Blacks to Britain and the

1977 Lions to New Zealand being the best of them. This will be Claran Fitzgerald's first major tour as captain and he was swift to recognize the need for unity when he was appointed. "I see team spirit and teamwork as a crucial element. We must have unanimity of purpose and all appreciate the difficulties."

The omens are good in terms of experience for McBride and Telfer but British rugby desperately needs a successful Lions tour to help recover a sense of direction. All four home countries face problems of rebuilding. Wales are farthest along that road, England are in the throes of a painful process, Scotland are seldom free of it and Ireland, having walked a long road to two successive championships, must embark on it shortly. None of the four possess a geographically identifiable style and rugby without style is a graceless object. The Lions can repair that omission.

There are thoughts that, to beat New Zealand, the Lions will have to revert to grinding forward power, the kind that took Pontypool to their Welsh Cup win last week. Well, the 1977 Lions had grinding forward power and it took them to a series defeat. There has to be more to rugby than that and if it cannot be achieved on tour it will be difficult to achieve anywhere.

It must be recognized, however, that the Lion's 18-match itinerary is probably the hardest faced by a touring side in New Zealand. They will have to work not only at their game but to repair the image denuded by their ungracious predecessors of 1977. New Zealanders look to South Africa for business, to the Lions for pleasure, and the pleasure derives not only from the rugby but also from the team's attitude off the field. It is a lot of asking 30 young men, of whom only 10 have toured as Lions before, much must depend on the sense of discipline and commitment engendered by McBride and Telfer.

There is little doubt that Telfer will work his men hard, with no easy games. It will virtually be a case of building, 73 All Blacks to Britain and the

than a Saturday side and a Wednesday side. This could be the making of some players, such as Steve Boyle, the 29-year-old Gloucester lock. Lineout technique being what it is in New Zealand, Boyle will find that disruption and ball-handling count for much; he will probably be fitter than ever before, and could be an ace in the hole, particularly if Colclough takes time to find his form.

Iain Paxton first came to prominence on tour in New Zealand with Scotland and he is another I expect to do well. Of the young players, Peter Winterbottom and Robert Ackerman - both of whom summered in New Zealand last year - should come back mightily improved players. That having been said, much will depend on the half backs, the only area of the party where there are players operating at world-class level.

If Terry Holmes and Ollie Campbell can retain form and fitness - and it is a big "if" to ask them to maintain on tour the standards they have shown over the past season, week in and week out - they could make the crucial difference in a close game. The Scottish pair of Roy Laidlaw and John Rutherford will tread copaciously on their heels and will create competition for the international places.

They will come up against a New Zealand side with a new coach, Bryce Rope, and including players who will see this summer as the climax of their careers. There is no Graham Mourie but one thing the All Blacks are seldom short of is good flankers; he will be more difficult to replace as captain, a job which could go to the hooker, Andy Dalton, or conceivably the scrum half, David Loveridge, who led New Zealand in Australia in 1980. A third possibility, as replacement flanker and captain, is the Auckland player, Alwyn Havvy, a creative player as opposed to the more destructive Bruce Middleton, of Wanganui.

Three men who have played for the Harlequins are likely to feature in New Zealand's trial on Saturday: Andy Haden at lock, Jamie Salmon at centre and Nick Allen at stand-off. Allen

created a fine impression on tour with the All Blacks in Wales in 1980 but dropped out of the game through injury and has been playing in Australia. He will have to dislodge the sitting tenant, Wayne Smith, who played last year against Australia. Other names familiar in Britain who should be in contention are Murray Mearns at No 8, Stuart Wilson as wing or centre and Steve Pokere, the centre who played well with the Maoris in Wales last year.

In 24 internationals since 1930 in New Zealand the Lions have won five, lost 17 and drawn two. They have only once won a series, in 1971, when two games were won, one lost and the last drawn. The number of points scored on that tour was not dissimilar to the aggregate scored in 1977 - there were 555 from 24 games in 1971 when the three-point try was still in operation as against 586 from 25 games. Yet the 1977 Lions lost three internationals and won one.

McBride has no predictions to make in public. He says he has no Englishmen, Scots or Welsh on tour (he inadvertently forgot to mention the Irish), he has only Lions. "There could be all sorts of problems but I expect that the quality of the players, their loyalty and pride in their own performance to be factors in overcoming any problems," he said. "We have an excellent team that could win the series."

Players, officials and tour itinerary

Scottish, G Price (Pontypool and Wales). HOOKERS: C T Deans (Newcastle and Scotland), G P Fitzgerald (St Mary's College and Ireland), C O'Connell (Ireland). LOCKS: S B Boyle (Gloucester and England), M J Colclough (Angouleme and England), D G Lenihan (Cork Constitution and Ireland), R L Newell (Cardiff and Wales). FLANKERS: J H Calder (Stewart's Melville FP and Scotland), P J Winterbottom (Headingley and England), J B O'Rourke (Manchester and Ireland), J Spira (Pontypool and Wales). NO 8: J R Beattie (Glasgow Academicals and Scotland), I A M Paxton (Stirling and Scotland). OFFICIALS: Manager: W J McBride (Ireland); assistant manager and coach: J W Telfer (Scotland); doctor: D A D MacLeod (Scotland); physiotherapist: K Murphy (England).



Lenihan the Lion stays at home

Party is over for Lenihan

Donal Lenihan, the Ireland lock who attended a reception given by the New Zealand High Commissioner in London on Tuesday evening proudly wearing his 1983 Lions blazer, has withdrawn from the tour, David Hands writes. He was discovered yesterday to have a hernia when the team assembled for a final medical check-up and has returned to Ireland.

Lenihan, aged 23, from Cork Constitution Club, was aware of a swelling before the injury was diagnosed. The injury is similar to that received by Peter Winterbottom, the England flanker, before the start of last season and which kept him out of rugby for three months. "I hope this is not a bad omen for the rest of the tour," Bill McBride, the Lions manager, said. "It is any consolation for Donal he is a young player who has a great future."

Lenihan first played for Ireland against Australia in 1981 and has won nine caps. Standing 6ft 5ins, he was one of the young men who was expected to benefit immensely from a Lions tour. His injury maintains the run of misfortune which has attended the last two Lions parties when they assembled to go to New Zealand and South Africa respectively. In 1977 Geoff Wheel, the Welsh lock, was advised to withdraw after detection with a heart murmur, although he subsequently continued his international career in the home championship. Before the same tour Roger Utley, the England back row forward, withdrew

because of a back injury. In 1980 it was the turn of Andy Irvine, the Scotland full back, to withdraw because of a hamstring injury.

There will be considerable sympathy for Lenihan not only from his erstwhile colleagues but throughout the rugby world. His withdrawal also added an air of caution to the training of the remaining Lions sent through at the Honourable Artillery Company ground in London yesterday morning, a non-contact workout which lasted 70 minutes.

There can be no greater disappointment for a young rugby player than to reach the verge of a big tour when he has received his equipment and then be forced out by injury. Clive Woodward, the England centre who battled all last season against a shoulder injury, believes a tour to New Zealand to be the height of any British player's ambition, greater even than a visit to South Africa. He, along with 28 other Lions, must have been happy to have survived yesterday's workout.

Bruno's job will go to the hard school for further education

By Alan Hubbard

Sooner or later Frank Bruno will have to pick on someone nearer his own age and physique, but it is unlikely to be the Albert Hall on May 31. This is when the Wandsworth heavyweight, unbeaten in 15 contests but with only 32 rounds of boxing behind him, is due to flex his remarkable muscles again.

However, his manager, Terry Lawless, says there may not be time to find a "suitable" opponent. By suitable presumably he means someone who offers stiffer resistance - stiff being an appropriate word as far as much of Bruno's opposition has been concerned.

The probability is that Bruno will again end up against another off-the-rack pugilist out has been, the latest old model, Scott Le Doux, duly having been crunched up in two and a half rounds at Wembley on Tuesday. Certainly Bruno's potential, as verified by the former world champion Floyd Patterson, who believes he can go right to the top, presents a match-making problem. The road to the world title is littered with the bruised ambitions of those who have been pushed too far too soon and Lawless is determined that Bruno will not fall by the wayside.

Big and strong as he is, with a left jab approaching the Louis and Liston class, Bruno is not yet equipped to take on the better heavyweights. He is tactically static. So whom does he meet? Sadly, there are plenty of Le Douxs and few up-and-comers of Bruno's kind. The scarcity of good opposition is reflected throughout the division. "You don't have to be great to be among the top at the moment," Patterson said as he left for New York yesterday. "Even Larry Holmes cannot find anyone worth while to fight."

Clearly impressed with Bruno's

punching power, Patterson advises the youngster to further his education in the United States, where he would be delighted to give him "all the help I can". He describes Bruno as "the best prospect I've seen for years. Give him two or three years and 20 more fights and he could well become champion."

Such Cassarian praise will not be lost on Bruno or Lawless, who intend to visit the gymnasiums and soak up the unique atmosphere in the United States this summer. Bruno might also have a bout or two there.

"I know I am accused of being over-cautious, but Frank really is too good a prospect to rush", Lawless says defensively. Bruno will allow some knuckles - always the trait of a heavy puncher - to heal before resuming training. Le Doux said, somewhat lavishly, that he placed him among the top five punchers he has faced and that he hit harder than Holmes. What really impressed him was Bruno's build. "When I looked across the ring and saw him disrobe I knew I wasn't fighting a fagot."

Bruno is not alone in having problems about whom to fight next. Joe Bugner, his old verbal sparring partner, may well be without an opponent at the Alexandra Pavilion on June 8 as Randy Cobb, of Texas, is said to be in Hollywood auditioning for a film. Cobb's manager, Joe Granby, said yesterday that he had heard nothing about any bout with Bugner. However, there may soon be an opportunity for Bugner's young stablemate, the flyweight, Keith Wallace, to add the European championship to his flyweight title, for he has been nominated to meet Antonio Montoya of Spain, for the title vacated by Charlie Magri.

Fracas: inquiry date set

The British Boxing Board of Control will hold an inquiry on May 19 into the unseemly scenes during and after the middleweight contest between the Londoner, Mark Kayler, and Bobby (Boogaloo) Watts, of the United States, at Wembley on Tuesday, Alan Hubbard writes. Both boxers have been charged with misconduct and Watts has had \$500 of his purse withheld.

The Board are concerned that the sport's reputation was brought into disrepute by the fracas which followed the bell at the end of the first round, when the American claimed Kayler had hit him low, and by the American's dissent and threatening attitude towards the referee when the bout was stopped in Kayler's favour during the fourth round.

Kayler's manager, Terry Lawless, was also involved in the fray, when he went to the defence of the referee, Sid Nathan, and this sparked off a reaction from Kayler, who had to be restrained in a neutral corner. "I don't really blame Mark. It was just a natural reaction because he thought I was going to get a right-hander," Lawless said.

Kayler, now unbeaten in 22 bouts, faces a censure or fine, but, unlike football, boxing has no automatic suspension so he will not be prevented from boxing at the Royal Albert Hall on May 31. It will probably be his last bout before he challenges for the British title held by Roy Gembs.

GOLF

Faldo in the swing for French mission

From Mitchell Platts, Versailles

Nick Faldo begins his 1983 campaign on the European circuit when he plays in the £36,000 French Open, sponsored by Peco Renault, which starts on the La Boule course here today. He is certainly in a better frame of mind than when he was last in this country. That was little more than six months ago, when he competed in the Lancome Trophy with the shock waves still reverberating from his defeat the previous week by Sandy Lyle in the World Match-play Championship. Faldo, after his six holes in front at the halfway stage.

That match was regarded as yet another decider in the Faldo v Lyle battle to become Britain's No 1 golfer. In truth it is a confrontation which cannot reach its conclusion until both players have completed their careers. Even so, the new good-natured rivalry that exists between them will provide plenty of excitement on British courses this year.

Lyle, who is taking a rest this year in company with several other leading players who feel that the French tax of 30 per cent on the prize-money is too big a price to pay, has stated the season well with his win in Madrid. Faldo has more than recovered from that remarkable reversal at Woorworth by playing 11 tournaments in the United States this year. He has won in the region of \$33,000, which means that he is close to the total he will require to retain his position on the all-exempt tour.

What is more important is that Faldo has been able to make several adjustments to his swing, which will enable him to take the



Faldo: in better heart

European tour by storm. He has carefully watched Hal Sutton, the rising star on the United States tour, and noted that he keeps his right foot firmly on the ground throughout the swing. Though adopting a similar technique, Faldo is now operating the full turn rather than the tilt, which has been his style since amateur days.

This week is an unscheduled stop for Faldo. He was only contacted in Dallas on Saturday evening and asked if he would play after the withdrawal of Greg Norman because of injury. Faldo has never won on the continent, but the long La Boule course should suit his game, although the same can be said for Severiano Ballesteros. Bernhard Langer tries for two wins in a row Faldo has his own Open success, and Mark James and Brian Waites are in the British contingent.

ATHLETICS

Thompson in second division

Daley Thompson, will take part in his first competition of the season when he takes part in four events for Newham and Essex Beagles in the British Athletics League, second division match at Cwmbarn on Saturday. He will compete in the 100 metres, high hurdles, shot and one of the relays. It will be his first appearance in competition since he was forced to pull out of an indoor pentathlon event in Toronto, Canada in February because of a back injury.

He will visit a London back specialist next week for a check up. But has already cancelled plans to compete this month at Goetz, Austria, where he set his first world record of last year. He plans to take part in at least one decathlon before the world athletics championships in Helsinki in August. Ron Tabb, Benji Durdan and Ed Medina, who finished second, third and fourth in the Boston Marathon this month, will represent the United States in the world championships in Helsinki this summer.

Greg Meyer, the Boston champion, prefers to attempt the 10,000 metres while Alberto Solazar, holder of the world's fastest time, refused to run the trial.

RUGBY UNION

Final merit tables

Table with columns for Northern Division, Midland Division, and London Division, listing teams and their performance statistics (P, W, D, L, F, A, Pts).

RUGBY LEAGUE

London to get the final word

The new, small army of Rugby League supporters in London and the South is being mobilized in an attempt to raise the attendance at Saturday's Challenge Cup Final above 80,000, Keith Mackie writes. Usually the big event of the Rugby League year is a sell-out at 95,000, but finances again this year and the tiny colliery village cannot provide enough support for a full house.

On the three previous occasions since 1960 that Rovers have appeared in the final, the attendance has been 76,000, 72,000 and 77,400. The Rugby League has mounted an advertising campaign in the south of England and London, using newspapers, radio and a circular to 250 coach companies. With

Chelsea agree to help Fulham

Malcolm Macdonald, the manager of Fulham football club, has asked the Fulham Rugby League side to find another venue for their match against Cardiff on Friday.

The Rugby League team have already won promotion but Macdonald's side, having suffered three successive defeats, have now dropped to fourth position in the second division and may not now be able to do likewise.

If the Rugby League match was moved, Fulham FC's vital match against Cardiff on Saturday would be the second match in two days on a pitch which has a notoriously difficult playing surface. However, Chelsea have offered to help on Fulham after talks at Craven Cottage with the Fulham chairman, Ernie Clay. The Chelsea secretary, Sheila Mason, said: "We have signed floodlit cricket and basketball before but this is the first time for Rugby League. I expect that Fulham's ground-staff who are obviously much more experienced than ours will come over to help mark out the pitch and erect the posts."

TABLE TENNIS: WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

China collection

Tokyo (Renner) - China, with two titles secured, are likely to dominate the five events in the world championships when competition resumes today. The Chinese retained the men's team title on Tuesday, defeating a tough Swedish side 5-1. In the women's team final they overwhelmed the host country Japan 3-0.

Now the Chinese have their sights on the individual events and a repeat of their performance two years ago in Yugoslavia when they monopolized the seven world titles.

Only two players have managed to win a match against the Chinese since the 10-day tournament began on April 28. They are Kim Wan, a highly-competitive South Korean, and Michael Appelgan of Sweden, the European champion, who shot the Chinese when he defeated Xie Suike, the No 3 seed, in Tuesday's final. It made little difference to the overall result but it helped to dispense theories of Chinese invincibility.

China's Xie Suike shows his best table manner

The surface problem running deep in the world game

Why the 'combo' bat is on a sticky wicket

Table tennis has changed drastically in sight and sound since the days of wooden bats and the distinctive sound they produced gave birth to the term "ping-pong". The first change came with the introduction of sandpaper to give greater traction and this was followed by a rash of pimples. It took the appearance of sponge to cure the pimples. The inventive Japanese, armed with thick sponge sandwich bats, took the table tennis world by storm with their new weaponry and their pin-holder style of play at the 1951 world championships in Bombay. This changed the face of the game, but the backroom boffins still had a few more tricks up their sleeves with the Japanese applying rubber on top of the sponge in the mid-1950s and adding inverted

CYCLING

Yates: surprise choice

Sean Yates, the British 5,000 metres pursuit champion, is a surprise selection in the Great Britain professional team announced yesterday for the Milk Race tour of Britain, later this month. Yates, from Sussex, who competes for the French team Peugeot-Shell, is having an indifferent season. His only win this year came in the time trial of the Isle of Wight time trial last month.

Yates, aged 22, is the youngest of the six-man team, and one of three who did not contest the Milk-Race as an amateur. This is the first year that professionals have been admitted to Britain's premier cycle race.

As expected, the backbone of the squad is formed by two men in their 30s, Sid Barras, from Kentley, and Phil Baynton, from Kidderminster. Barras twice competed in the Milk Race, winning three stages and finishing fifth overall in 1968. Baynton won the most meritorious rider award in the 1970 race, when he was aged 20.

Also selected is Bill Nickson, from Preston, who won the 1976 Milk Race. There is a doubt about his ability to be ready for the start in Bonnamouth in 17 days, for he has a plaster cast on a wrist, which was broken during the second stage of the recent Seaside International. A reserve has yet to be named.

The final member of the team is Keith Lambert, from Bradford. Opinion is divided among the "combo" players. Some say the new ruling could be disastrous for them, but others believe the effects will be negligible.

Law Report May 5 1983

Court of Appeal

Husband's army grant not to be paid into court

Walker v Walker
Before Lord Justice Cumming-Bruce, Lord Justice Griffiths and Sir Roger Ormrod
[Judgment delivered May 3]
A wife was not entitled to have her husband's army resettlement grant paid into court until the trial of issues relating to ancillary relief, the Court of Appeal held.

LORD JUSTICE CUMMING-BRUCE said that the husband and wife were married in April 1976 and had three children. In June 1981 the wife petitioned for dissolution of the marriage.

On October 1981 the wife sought financial provision and made inquiries while the husband was still a serving soldier whether his resettlement grant could be preserved by consent.

A decree nisi was granted on March 24, 1982 and on April 1, 1982 the husband was discharged from the Army.

The husband had a right to a resettlement grant entitlement of £2,436 under the provisions of a Royal Warrant. On April 2, 1982 the wife applied under the provisions of section 37 of the Matrimonial Causes Act 1973 for preservation of the fund of £2,436.

On April 5 the registrar granted an injunction against her Majesty's Paymaster General to pay the money into court and on April 6 that order was amended to include the regimental paymaster.

The Ministry of Defence raised objections and the application was transferred to the High Court. On May 6 the decree absolute was granted.

On May 21 the husband's solicitors took themselves off the record and the wife had no further part in the proceedings.

On July 29, 1982, Mr Justice Sheldon held that section 203 of the 1955 Act precluded the court from making the order which the registrar had made ordering the Paymaster General to pay the resettlement grant money into court in the event of their not having been paid to the husband.

Divisional Court

Expenses claim forms not open to public

Brookman v Green
Before Lord Justice Goff and Mr Justice Mann
[Judgment delivered April 27]

Claim forms submitted to a local authority by councillors for payment of expenses were not "documents" deposited with the "office of a local authority" within the meaning of section 225(1) of the Local Government Act 1972 where their use as a record had been superseded by computerised records, and were not therefore available for inspection by local government electors.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held in allowing an appeal by the chief financial officer of Wakefield Metropolitan District Council by way of case stated against his conviction by the Morley Justices in West Yorkshire of obstructing Mr Harold Green, a ratepayer, from inspecting the documents relating to councillors' expenses, to wit claim forms submitted to sections 225(1) and 228(7) of the Local Government Act 1972.

The Act provides, by section 225(1): "In any case to which a document of any description is deposited with the proper officer of a local authority... the proper officer... shall receive and retain the document... for the purposes directed by the standing orders... or instrument."

Landlord not obliged to sue

O'Leary and Another v Linsley London Borough Council
There was no implied term in a tenancy agreement obliging landlords to enforce a tenant's agreement not to cause nuisance to neighbours who were also their tenants and the appropriate remedy for agreed tenants was to bring an action in tort against the tenant causing the nuisance, Lord Justice Dillon held in the Court of Appeal on May 4.

Correction

In Horcal Ltd v Garland (The Times May 4) counsel for the defendant was Mr Stephen Powles, not Fowles as printed.

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also on page 26

HORIZONS

The Times guide to career development

Joining the American dream

The American dream may look slightly tarnished these days, but there is still no lack of foreigners who want to work in the United States. According to Robert Fraade, a partner in a firm of US lawyers whose London office specializes in immigration matters, there may be as many as 500,000 British passport holders working in Southern California alone. Yet the quota of British immigrants is only 20,000 a year - and 80 per cent of that is reserved for people with family ties to US citizens or permanent residents. So how does he explain the discrepancy?

Godfrey Golzen explains the differences between US immigration visas

without having any special connections? The route here is through the category of temporary workers who come under the H1 and H2 visas. They are issued for a year at a time and are usually renewable. The important difference between them is that the H1 visa is for persons of professional status and this phrase had a wider and vaguer definition in the United States than in Europe. In the case of the H2 visas, though, the United States employer has to go through a rather complicated rigmarole to satisfy his local Immigration and Naturalization Service that the foreign employee is taking a temporary post for which no suitable United States citizen can be found.

People like entertainers and sportsmen come in under the H1 visa. But it also opens the door to ordinary people to go to the United States on a business or tourist visa, find a job and then apply for a temporary work visa. It can be processed in as little as a day - if, as Mr Fraade says, you get proper legal advice on what is involved. Otherwise it can take months, especially if you apply in one of the centres where there are already a lot of immigrants trying the same thing. The H visa, he stresses, is specific to a particular employer, not a national passport to the United States job market, and a Bill now before Congress may soon make it much more difficult to get a foot in Uncle Sam's door.

Godfrey Golzen is author of Working Abroad.

"The US immigration laws are second only to the tax laws as a rigid set of bureaucratic rules," he says. "But as is the case with all such rules, there are perfectly legal ways through them as well."

One thing you must avoid at all costs is to collide with the system head-on. The British quota has long waiting lists in all the non-familiar categories and if your application is turned down you may never get any other kind of visa for the US either. Fraade's colleague, Steve Harris, explains: "The official view of the US immigration authorities is that every visitor has a secret hankering to live here permanently. Once you've demonstrated such a desire openly by applying for immigration, the presumption is that as soon as you get foot in the States with a visitor's visa you'll find some way of disappearing."

Much the more promising route, if

you want to work in the US, is to apply for one of the several categories of non-immigrant business visas and a good deal of the Fraade partnership's work is with corporate clients who want to transfer executives there. The requirement for this type of visa, called L-1, is that the person concerned must have been employed outside the US by the company making the application for at least a year, and that he or she is employed either in a managerial or executive position or has some specialist expertise to offer. The L-1 visa can be granted for an initial period of three years and then be renewed.

A similar type of non-immigrant visa, E1 or E2, is issued to what are called, respectively, Treaty Traders and Treaty Investors. People with a British passport entering the United States have the right to live there for up to five years in order to invest or trade on a substantial scale. What "substantial" means in terms of trade is left to the discretion of the United States Consulate issuing the visa, but as far as investment is concerned the minimum amount is considered to be \$100,000.

But what if you just want to take up a job offer in the United States,

NEWS ROUND

Given the chance, office workers would prefer not to work at a screen in their own homes, even though they now have to commute longer distances to work. This is the main finding of a report published last month by the Statistical Services Division of the Alfred Marks Group. The Office Computers revealed that although 29 per cent of the 504 office workers surveyed would like to avoid the rush hour and would enjoy working from home, most recognized that there would be drawbacks. Interruptions and distractions were considered to be the main disadvantages, and half of those questioned felt they would miss the companionship.

This was despite the fact that regular commuting was shown to take larger slices of take-home pay and cut into leisure time more today than five years ago. The report also reveals that private cars have overtaken the train since 1978 as the most widely used method of getting to work, and that the worst aspects of travelling by public transport were considered to be unreliability and overcrowding.

The 1982 transport strikes affected 40 per cent of office staff commuters' journey times and hit those working in the capital the hardest. All but 9 per cent were prepared to spend long

hours travelling and suffer many discomforts to reach their offices and while most did so by joining a traffic jam, either in a shared car or their own, one in five respondents walked.

A new retirement preparation programme has recently been introduced by Legal & General, designed particularly for middle management - defined as those in the £18,000 to £20,000 income bracket. The programme, developed from the insurance company's successful pre-retirement counselling service introduced five years ago, was created to meet the specific needs of managers, which may differ from those of other members of staff, particularly in relation to financial planning. Further details can be obtained from Keith Hughes, Retirement Counselling Manager, Legal & General, Pensions Department, Kingswood House, Kingswood, Tadworth, Surrey.

A new growth area for senior management is the hotel, travel and tourism industry, where a new breed of professional executive is superseding the traditional time-served managers who work their way up through the industry. "The market place is

changing", explained Eurosurvey headhunter Dermot Hoare. "Many top operators, dissatisfied with the retailers' efforts, are investing in direct-sell outlets, creating a new management demand for sales and marketing people. Sadly, there is a dearth of professional managers in the travel and tourism industry who can respond to the new market trends, so more and more companies are having to look outside their own industry to recruit new executives." Typically, the new catchment areas are in fast-moving, upmarket consumer goods, retail distribution and finance.

A book published last month aims to eliminate the notion that franchising is an easy way to riches by highlighting the potential pitfalls. The book, *Taking Up A Franchise* (Kogan Page, £5.95), by Godfrey Golzen, Colin Barrow and Jackie Gervais, indicates that, as well as the numerous advantages there are stresses and dangers in some of the compromises franchising offers between self-employment and working for someone else. It gives financial and marketing data on around 100 leading franchise operators, detailed advice on evaluating a franchise proposal and how to finance a franchise, in addition to lists of useful organizations and publications.

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will shortly be appointing a Director to succeed David Watt, who is leaving at the end of this year. Those interested should, by the end of May, write to the Chairman, Lord Harlech, who will inform them of the proposed terms of appointment. The Chairman will also welcome suggestions from those who know of likely candidates who may not see this advertisement.

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BRIDGE - On 21st April to Shirley (nee Taylor) and her husband, a daughter, a sister for Mrs. Taylor.
EASTON - On May 1st, at Mount London Hospital, to Mrs. Susan Easton and Mr. Simon, a son (Alexander).
BERNARDINI - On April 29th to Mrs. Bernadine and Mr. John, a daughter, a sister for Mrs. Bernadine.

BIRTHDAYS

JERRY SCROTHWORTH - Police sergeant, 40 years old on May 1st.
MAYHEW - On May 1st, 88th birthday of Mrs. Mayhew, wife of the late Mr. Mayhew.
BLACKBURN - On 2 May, 88th birthday of Mrs. Blackburn, wife of the late Mr. Blackburn.

DEATHS

BEST - On May 1st, 88th birthday of Mrs. Best, wife of the late Mr. Best.
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BIRTHDAYS

JERRY SCROTHWORTH - Police sergeant, 40 years old on May 1st.
MAYHEW - On May 1st, 88th birthday of Mrs. Mayhew, wife of the late Mr. Mayhew.

DEATHS

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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Davalle

BBC 1
6.00 Cozfax AM. Whatever kind of TV set you have, you can receive this service of information about the news, sport, weather and traffic. Tightly sub-edited, and not as well known as it ought to be.

tv-am
6.00 Daybreak. With Lucy Mathen and a 30-minute Good Morning Britain with Lynda Berry and Nick Owen. Includes news at 6.00, 6.15, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 8.55. Sport at 8.40 and 8.55. Morning papers at 8.53 and 8.55. TV spot at 7.50. Guest celebrity at 8.50 (John Saville). Consumer news at 8.45. Fashion at 8.50, and Baby Talk, at 8.55. Close-down at 8.15.

ITV/LONDON
9.30 For Schools: Pond Life, 5.47 Basic Maths, 10.04 Middle English, 10.21 The Developing Body, 10.33 Search for Solitude, 10.45 Nature Box, 11.18 History Around You, 11.26 Classroom computers.

BBC 2
6.05 Open University (until 5.10). 11.00 Play School see BBC 1, 9.55 entry, 11.25 Close-down.

CHANNEL 4
5.00 Tennis that Counts: Adrian Panofsky continues his course of instruction at the Euro Tennis Hotel in Alicante where his eight pupils are now ready to tackle the "tremor stroke" - from volley to the smash - and the "wobler".

Radio 4
8.00 News Briefing. 8.15 Farming Today. 8.25 Shipping Forecast. 8.30 Today, including 6.45 Prayer for the Day, 6.55, 7.55 Weather, 7.00, 8.00 Today's News, 7.25, 8.25 Sport, 7.30, 8.30 News Headlines, 7.45 Thought for the Day, 8.55 Yesterday's Parliament, 8.57 Weather, Travel.

Radio 2
8.00 News. 8.05 Morning Concert (continued). Handel, Albinoni (Oboe Concerto in D minor, Op 9 No 2), Hummel records.

Radio 3
5.55 Weather. 7.00 News. 7.05 Morning Concert, Mendelssohn (Cello and Prosperus Voyage), Ireland (Piano), Angelica, from Mass in A), Edgar records.

ENTERTAINMENT
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Computer Appointments Appear each Tuesday For further information phone Lindsay Heggie on 01-837-1234 Ext 7677

Stern hits back at diary critics

Continued from page 1

At this time Hitler was planning the invasion of Poland, codenamed "Operation White". On July 12 he noted: "The last few days I studied the plans for Operation White over and over. This plan must now be ready. I believe everything has been considered. Have also spoken with Hess again. As soon as he has thought it all through thoroughly, he will let me know. Would not have believed it of Hess, not of Hess."

Ten days later Hitler, then staying at Berghof, his mountain retreat, wrote: "Göring here once again. Inquire cautiously what the range of our best aeroplanes is."

"Conversation with Hess. Tell him about my talk with Göring. Hess says a special plane would have to be built. He is already working on the design. What a fellow. He does not want anything about his plan to be said to Göring from now on."

On August 8, 1939, Churchill said on the radio that no one apart from Hitler was going to make war, and the next day Hitler wrote:

"When I read the text of yesterday's speech by Churchill, I know at once who the greatest poisoner in London is. Now I can understand why thinks Churchill must be bypassed or eliminated."

On August 15 Hitler remarked: "Inquire again of Hess how far along he is with his plan."

Stern says that after that Hitler was then preoccupied with the Non-Aggression Pact with Russia and the outbreak of war. It leaves its account of the affair which will continue next week - with Hess's reported remarks that Germany did not want to capture thousands of British soldiers at Dunkirk because this could humiliate England and

make a peace treaty more difficult.

The publication of the Hitler diaries comes after two weeks of angry exchanges throughout the world about their authenticity, and today Stern hits back strongly at its critics. In a toughly worded leading article, Herr Peter Koch, the magazine's editor, suggests there were political motives behind the accusations and doubts levelled at Stern.

Of Lord Dacre's change of opinion, which Stern strongly attacks, Herr Koch writes: "Is Trevor-Roper perhaps following the disinformation policy of his earlier employers at MI6 because Britain finds details of the Hess case unpleasant? Was there a secret plot, supposed to be kept quiet, in which aristocratic Britons conspired with Hess against war Premier Churchill?"

Herr Koch also pours scorn on charges that the diaries are forgeries. "Maybe the nationalistic Figaro does not like memories to be revived again of those years in which France's politicians through their weakness helped to bring about Hitler's rise."

"Maybe the English know only too well why they have locked up certain files such as those on the Hess case until 2017. And it is convenient for Moscow to present the Hitler diaries as forgeries as long as they do not know what the Brown (Nazis) dictator noted down over his secret agreement with the red dictator, Stalin, at the cost of the Poles."

Herr Koch at present in the United States with Herr Rudolf Rüdiger Hess, son of Rudolf Hess. He said that Stern had called on Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign Minister, to intervene with the four allied powers to allow Rudolf Hess to be allowed to look at the diaries from his prison cell in Berlin.



End of a kidnap: Dallas police acted swiftly to free the wife and two daughters of a bank manager after they were seized at gunpoint by a hooded extortionist. Storming the kidnapper's car, they rescued first one daughter (top left), then the other (top right) before finally arresting the kidnapper (bottom).

Frank Johnson in the Commons Election-crazed public on verge of disorder

As the rest of us waited for the Prime Minister to make up her mind about the general election, a man in the public gallery yesterday could stand the tension no longer.

He cried out in protest. What exactly he cried out is immaterial. What was important about the incident was that it was proof that Mrs Margaret Thatcher's continued delay in leading to civil disorder among the election-crazed British public.

For all that it mattered, he could have cried out the routine: "What about the workers?" Or "What about Ethiopia's irredentist claim on Somalia?" and indeed vice versa.

As it happened, what the man chose to cry out was: "What about the bloody disabled?" This was as good a choice as any, since the man was sitting in a wheelchair.

He was in the place at the back of the gallery reserved for the disabled. That matter, they have made it the first disturbance from the public gallery in history to issue from a wheelchair. Another first for Britain!

The attendants moved in on the lone demonstrator. In a somewhat surreal scene, the wheelchair, for with the demonstrator still in it, was wheeled sideways across the top of the gallery at high speed by an attendant and disappeared into the wings of history. But not before the professor managed to shout out a descriptive reference to one of the ministers from one of the many departments which deal with the disabled.

Some of us were unfamiliar with the noun used. But our more worldly colleagues informed us that the demonstrator had accused the minister of being a disciple of Onan. Judging by the smiles from members below, the accusation appeared to command quite a lot of all-party assent, the minister named being a rather pompous fellow.

There was probably all-party approval too of the fact that the demonstrator's contribution to the day's proceedings came while Mr Alexander Lyon, the member for York, was speaking on the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill, report stage.

Mr Lyon is a part-time saint. In the opinion of many of his colleagues, this makes him a full-time bore. He has an air of rectitude.

At the precise moment the wheelchair erupted, Mr Lyon was talking high-mindedly about the importance of the police doing their job "in a way acceptable to the community". There appeared, alas, to be no causal link between the eruption and Mr Lyon's high-mindedness.

But the House has got to pass the time somehow while it waits through this week for Mrs Thatcher to decide at the weekend whether today's local election results mean that the way is safe for June.

Listening to Mr Lyon's pieties on the subject of how beneficial it would be for the police to be ordered about more often by Labour councillors, was as good a way as any.

There was also Mr Roy Hattersley, the chief Opposition spokesman on home affairs, saying from the Labour Front Bench exactly the same things as Mr Lyon from below the gangway. But no one among the Tories or the Labour right takes offence at the left-wing matter on the police when it comes from the lovable Mr Hattersley.

Members had been sitting all night on the Bill. Not all of us had felt it proper that we should spend the night with them. I had made my excuses fairly early the previous afternoon as Mr Hattersley was just getting into best voice.

He was agreeing with certain concessions which the Home Secretary had made in response to liberal opinion. But Mr Hattersley has chosen to be the champion of the Wretched of the Earth this season, and so he chided Mr William Whitelaw for worrying only about the cause of "fashionable and vocal groups affected by the Bill such as lawyers, doctors and journalists" - and Mr Hattersley might have added, muggers.

We returned yesterday afternoon to find Mr Hattersley still going on. Presumably others had spoken for brief periods in between.

But the election dominates all reasoning. At Scottish question time, Mr Allan Stewart, an Under Secretary of State at the Scottish Office, accused Mr Donald Dewar, a spokesman for the party opposed to council house sales, of being "an onner occupier".

Labour members regard this as one of the dirtiest things that can be said about one of their spokesmen in an election year. This is because it is always true.

Doctor and patient obsessed by Hitler's intestinal troubles

By Our Medical Correspondent

One of the characteristics of egocentric politicians is a determined faith in bizarre doctors and unorthodox treatment. Mr David Irving, in his book in the diaries of Dr. Theo Morell, shows Hitler in choosing him as his medical adviser against all advice, demonstrated this trait.

to which they were loaned in 1946. Mr Irving has had the cooperation of Dr Morell's widow in their publication.

The recorded observations show that Hitler aged rapidly during the war. There is general agreement that he suffered from a mild to moderate high blood pressure, an enlarged heart, and both a consultant cardiologist and Dr Morell agreed that the electrocardiograph showed obvious evidence of narrowing of the coronary arteries.

Further evidence not emphasized in the diary is that the shake in his left leg disappeared for a time after he suffered a head injury in the assassination attempt. A stroke, a natural rather than traumatic form of brain injury, is occasionally known to reduce the tremor of Parkinsonism.

Hitler's other great problem was his gastrointestinal tract. Today the diagnosis would probably be an irritable bowel syndrome. As in the 1940s treatment is still unsatisfactory, but few patients could have suffered such a battery of treatment as Dr Morell prescribed for Hitler.

Hormones, vitamins, morphia substitutes, strychnine, sulphenamides, belladonna, mercury, intravenous glucose, injections of calcium all were tried, in vain, for his intestines continued to respond to stress rather than the doctor's measures.

Dr Geisinger, another and more orthodox member of Hitler's medical team, records that Hitler contrary to wartime jokes, had normal genitalia. The tests for syphilis, too, were negative.

Adolf Hitler: The Medical Diaries. (By David Irving, Stigwick & Jackson, £10.95).

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THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements: The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh visit Royal Air Force Collyishall, Norfolk, 10.55. The Duke of Edinburgh, as Grand Master of the Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators, attends the Guild's Lively Dinner at Fishmongers' Hall, EC4, 6.30. The Duke of Gloucester opens the Building Conservation Trust's Care of Buildings Exhibition at Hampton Court Palace, Surrey, 3. Princess Alexandra lays the foundation stone for new junior classrooms to mark the centenary of Emmanuel School's move to its present buildings at Battersea Rise, SW11, 2.15.

New exhibitions

Ceramics by Henry Hammond and paintings by Leszek Muszynski and Anon Spring (fabric wall hangings) Oxford Gallery, 23 High Street, Oxford; Mon to Sat 10 to 5 (until June 1). Leading entries for the Oriental Museum design competition, School of Oriental Studies, Durham University, Elvet Hill; Mon to Fri 9.30 to 1, 2.15 to 5, Sat 9.30 to 12 (from today until Sept 30).

Exhibitions in progress

Figuresheads from Cury Sark collection; Kangar, the Elusive Summit; Photographs of a climbing expedition in China; The Cooper Gallery, Church Street, Barnsey; Tues to 5.30, Wed to Sun 10 to 5.30 (until May 15). Paper as Image, an Arts Council exhibition, Banger Art Gallery, Ford Gwyndwr; Tues to Sat 12 to 5 (until May 21). John Platt 1728-1810, mason-architect; Rotherham and Clifton House, 1783-1983; Clifton Park Museum, Clifton House, Rotherham; Mon to Thurs 10 to 5, Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (until Aug 5). Dorset people at work, by local artists, Dorset County Museum, High Street, Dorchester; Mon to Fri 10 to 5, Sat 10 to 1, 2 to 5 (until June 4).

Anniversaries

Birkb Soren Kierkegaard, philosopher; Copenhagen, 1813; Karl Marx, Trier, Germany; 1818; Henry Stendhal, novelist (Quo Vadis); Nobel laureate 1905, Wola Okrzejski; 1946; Archibald Fraser, Earl of Colchester, 1833; Dante; Napoleon Bonaparte, St Helena, 1821; Bret Hart, writer, London, 1902; Children's Day in the Republic of Korea, Coronation Day in Thailand.

The pound

Australia \$ 2.28, Austria Sch 28.69, Belgium Fr 80.25, Canada \$ 2.00, Denmark Kr 14.34, Finland Mk 5.97, France Fr 12.18, Germany DM 4.81, Greece Dr 137.00, Hongkong \$ 11.28, Ireland P 238.00, Italy L 2770.00, Japan Yen 394.80, Netherlands Gld 4.51, Norway Kr 11.70, Portugal Esc 201.18, South Africa Rd 217.50, Spain Pta 163.8, Sweden Kr 3.38, Switzerland Fr 2.00, USA \$ 1.64, Yugoslavia Dnr 128.00.

The papers

The Daily Mirror comments: "The latest Russian move in the peace game is to be welcomed. The British response is not. The Russians want British and French missiles to be counted with the American ones in Europe if the Russians count their warheads. This demand was dismissed out of hand yesterday by the British Government. If communist countries like Poland or East Germany had nuclear missiles, the West would insist that they be removed along with the Russian weapons."

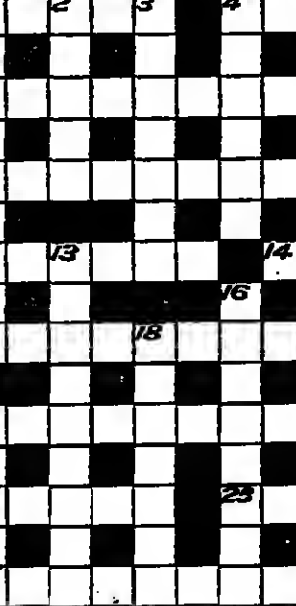
Belfast ferry

The Liverpool-Belfast passenger ferry service will be suspended from tonight until Monday because of mechanical problems with St Colum I. Belfast Car Ferries say they have made arrangements for their passengers to travel on alternative services.

Lighting-up time

London: 8.50 pm to 4.55 am. Birmingham: 8.15 pm to 4.50 am. Manchester: 8.15 pm to 4.50 am. Newcastle: 8.15 pm to 4.50 am. Perth: 8.15 pm to 4.50 am.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,121



Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Mobile Homes Bill and National Heritage Bill, remaining stages. Lords (3): Telecommunications Bill, committee, first day.

Weather forecast

A depression will move slowly towards W Ireland. Associated troughs of low pressure will cross Britain. Gam to midnight. London, SE, Central S and Central N England, Midlands: Rain drying out bright intervals, scattered showers; wind S to SW, fresh to strong; max 15 to 17C (59 to 63F).

High tides

Table with columns for location, AM, HT, PM, MT. Locations include London Bridge, Aberdeen, Ayr, Bournemouth, Brighton, Cardiff, Doverport, Dundee, Exeter, Falmouth, Glasgow, Harwich, Holyhead, Liverpool, Newcastle, Norwich, Plymouth, Southampton, Swansea, Tyneside, Wexford.

Around Britain

Table with columns for location, Sun, Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri, Sat, Sun. Locations include Aberdeen, Ayr, Bournemouth, Brighton, Cardiff, Doverport, Dundee, Exeter, Falmouth, Glasgow, Harwich, Holyhead, Liverpool, Newcastle, Norwich, Plymouth, Southampton, Swansea, Tyneside, Wexford.

Abroad

Table with columns for location, C, F, C, F. Locations include Adelaide, Algiers, Ankara, Athens, Baghdad, Bahrain, Bangkok, Beirut, Belgrade, Bogota, Brasilia, Buenos Aires, Caracas, Casablanca, Cebu, Chicago, Colombo, Copenhagen, Dallas, Damascus, Dhaka, Doha, Frankfurt, Geneva, Georgetown, Hanoi, Harare, Havana, Helsinki, Hong Kong, Istanbul, Jakarta, Johannesburg, Kuala Lumpur, London, Lyons, Manila, Mexico City, Moscow, Mumbai, Nairobi, New Delhi, New York, Ottawa, Paris, Perth, Port of Spain, Pretoria, Rome, Santiago, Sao Paulo, Seoul, Singapore, Stockholm, Taipei, Toronto, Vancouver, Warsaw, Wellington, Windhoek, Zurich.

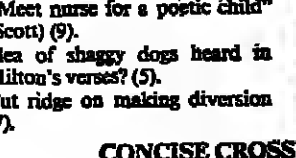
ACROSS

- 1 Succulent plants put about before start of play (5).
4 How to move a bishop, or Elijah at last? (9).
9 Like mourners making halt about ten perhaps (9).
10 Bald as a coot? Can't see, with this bird (5).
11 Auburn victim of the tyrant's power (8, 7).
12 Footer as one who was wholly spiritual? (6).
14 Lost rat for repair to the mezzanine (8).
17 This sort of clue taking credit, say, for this puzzle (8).
19 Bell on this bicycle? (6).
21 Danger lurking in paradise (5, 2, 3, 5).
24 An antelope's ring-bone, one concludes (5).
25 Stidy art the wrong way, lot of trouble for a singer (9).
26 Dominion holding on to religious establishment (9).
27 Part of church where ale is brewed? (5).

DOWN

- 1 Holder of pot - that's right! (6).
5 French wine angels consumed, or Plantagenets (8).
6 Age-old by (7).
7 Informed about article as valued (9).
8 Irene finds him eccentric (5).
13 Rugby player from neither Greece nor Rome (9).
15 Rock one under way off Fenchurch Street (9).
16 The pub in New Place is the very top (8).
18 Sort of cash point (7).
20 Country's repalia redesigned (7).
21 Soft endowment that isn't genuine (6).
22 Quot soccer. Mr French, to behave so violently (5).
23 You will find these mountains in it (5).

Solution of Puzzle No 16,120



CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 19

Handwritten Arabic text: ١٢٥٠ / ١٢٥٠